

Employers draft plan to put ceiling on wage increases

guidelines for a new pay initiative have been drawn by the Confederation of British Industry headquarters. The guidelines, which are likely to be used by the CBI general council today, would mean replacing the social contract with an agreement involving the Government, trade unions and employers which would aim at a return, within three years, to an annual inflation rate of 5%.

% annual inflation target urged

Mr Brown, a senior CBI official, said that the guidelines would be used to negotiate a new agreement with the Government, trade unions and employers which would aim at a return, within three years, to an annual inflation rate of 5%.

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Mr Shore on brink of car anti-dumping duty on Japan

Mr Peter Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, is on the brink of a decision to impose a temporary anti-dumping duty on Japanese car imports. An indication of the Government's thinking is expected to be given today when the Commons discusses measures to help British Leyland.

After a series of departmental discussions with the Society of Motor Manufacturers and Traders, the Department of Trade has now received a revised and formal application alleging that specified imports of cars from Japan are being landed for sale at less than fair market prices prevailing in the country of exportation.

Prima facie evidence supplied by the SMMT suggests that a rising volume of imports for the opening months of 1975 has not been accompanied by an appropriate increase in unit values, given the substantial rates of inflation recorded both in Britain and the United Kingdom. The Government has to decide whether this trend is threatening or causing material injury to domestic car makers.

The SMMT is pressing for an immediate Order imposing a countervailing duty, against which the Japanese car importers can appeal. However, the Department may wait to hear formal representations from the SMMT evidence before imposing an anti-dumping duty, perhaps obtaining some voluntary action to avoid Government action under the Customs Duties (Dumping and Subsidies) Act 1969.

Customs and Excise returns for January to March car imports from Japan show 28,879 units with an average value of £576.3. In the same period a year ago imports totalled 14,187 with an average unit value of £575.2.

In spite of inflation and its impact on shipping and other costs, including production, the unit value of cars brought in and accepted for entry by Customs authorities has, therefore, only risen by 1.1 comparing the three month figures against the same period a year ago.

Since March, it is known that the Japanese car importers have increased their shipments. Nissan shipments in April were 10 times higher than the same month last year. Nissan has been building up its British stocks of Datsun cars. So far this month, it has received 11,400 and the total for May could reach 13,000, given the April allocations in Japan.

Stocks in dealer showrooms and compounds now stand four times higher than the April level at around 8,500, giving the company a strong position to meet demand when the new registration year begins in a few months time. Some reduction in shipments can be expected by the end of June.

British Leyland said yesterday that in 1974 the corporation sold about 1,000 cars in Japan and the other British manufacturers sold 800 between them but the Japanese sold almost 57,000 cars to Britain.

A spokesman quoted in British Leyland Mirror says: "In a buoyant market, British Leyland and other European manufacturers, hard-pressed to meet demand elsewhere, were prepared to tolerate the one-way trade situation with Japan. But now, in a slumping market where every sale counts, it has become intolerable."

British Leyland's corporate finance staff have estimated that the Japanese have probably cost the corporation 4,000 jobs—and the British motor industry as a whole, including suppliers a frightening 30,000 in 40,000 jobs."



Armed German police guard the specially built courthouse at Stuttgart where the Baader-Meinhof trial opens today. Report, page 5.

Dr Kissinger tests ground in Gromyko discussions

From Richard Dreyfuss, Vienna.

Dr Henry Kissinger, the United States Secretary of State, left here this afternoon for Bonn after his second day of talks with Mr Gromyko, the Soviet Foreign Minister. At the airport Dr Kissinger said they had agreed to hold another meeting to discuss outstanding issues, particularly the Middle East and strategic arms limitation.

He said he was satisfied with the talks. The talks had been held in a friendly atmosphere but the work of peace was never finished. Relations between the United States and the Soviet Union were essential to peace and progress. "We shall do our utmost to keep them on course," he said.

Dr Kissinger is anxious to maintain momentum in the search for a Middle East settlement because he fears that prolonged deadlock could harden positions and increase the danger of another war. He is still testing the ground to find the best way forward.

His talks with Mr Gromyko were part of a wider reassessment which will continue until President Ford meets with Soviet Premier Brezhnev on June 1 and Mr Rabin, the Israeli Prime Minister, goes to Washington on June 11.

Until the breakdown of Dr Kissinger's peace mission to the Middle East, the Gromyko-Rossokhlyatko talks were pressing hard to reconvene the Geneva conference. Then they appeared to draw their heels perhaps because of the lack of preparation or because they did not want to risk an East-West confrontation until they had got the European security conference out of the way. Now their interest seems to be reviving.

The Americans were reluctant to reconvene the Geneva conference so long as there was still a chance that Dr Kissinger's personal mediation would be successful. They felt that a large conference would force the participants to take a harder position in public than they might in private. It would also bring the Russians into the centre of negotiations and even into subsidiary talks.

These reservations still apply but since the failure of Dr Kissinger's mission the Americans are looking seriously at what might be done at Geneva.

iyaguez 'ol boat' asylum

By Palling day 20

Indian patrol craft said to be involved in the affair is anchored off the base at Santapha, south of here, according to sources.

They say the crew of the patrol craft is not known and that attitudes will be a factor in comment this week. The Foreign Ministry said that the patrol craft did not hear anything about the incident.

Conflicting reports say 1700 patrol craft was in the Santapha area where it stayed for a few days. There was a local people when police refused to say it was a Thai Navy. Then, it was reported that the patrol craft was a white flag.

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Mr Wilson challenges Tories over crisis

By David Wood, Political Editor

Using Prime Minister's question time in the Commons yesterday as a platform for his attack on the Conservative Government, Mr Wilson, leader of the Opposition, said that the Government's economic policy was a failure and that it was time to change.

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Mr Stonehouse tables Commons question and promises return

By George Clark

Apparently with the aim of striking his claim to continued membership of the House of Commons in spite of a recommendation from a select committee that he should be expelled, Mr John Stonehouse, the absent MP for Walsall, North, has tabled a written question in the Commons.

It is for answer on a specified day, and was posted from Australia where Mr Stonehouse faces extradition proceedings.

He has also written to constituency officials stating that he intends to attend two meetings of the Walsall, North, Labour party on June 11 and June 12. The implication was that he intended to return by the date set by the select committee.

Mr Stonehouse wrote from Melbourne to the select committee 10 days ago saying that whatever the result of the extradition proceedings he wished to return to his place in the House of Commons as soon as possible in order to make a statement. "I am also anxious to accept the invitation of the Walsall, North, constituency Labour party to attend the meeting of the executive committee of that body on June 11 next."

He added that he was writing to Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary about matters within his province.

Mr Stonehouse's question is for Mr Healey.

132,000 cars called for brake check

By Our Motoring Correspondent

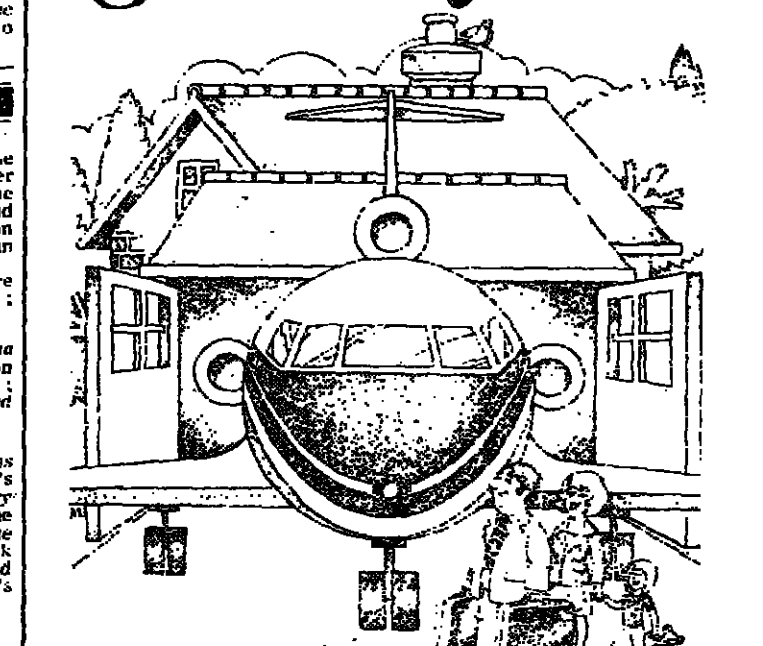
Ford and Chrysler dealers in Britain are to approach owners of recent Capri, Escort and Avenger cars to check for brake hoses. The companies said yesterday that they knew of about a dozen cases where hoses had punctured, causing loss of braking power.

In three cases the cars had been involved in minor collisions but there were no personal injuries. The models affected are 74,000 Capri II and disc-braked Escorts and 58,000 Avengers, made between March, 1974, and April this year.

Three shot dead in Beirut clash

Beirut, May 20.—Shots still rang out tonight in a Beirut suburb after a day of fighting between right-wingers and Palestinian guerrillas left at least three people dead and 20 injured.—Reuter.

The French getaway car



The French getaway car is Air France Fly & Drive. Simply reserve the car at the same time as you book your flight. Depending on the number of adults travelling together, the applicable return air fare includes the hire of a car for between 8 and 15 days.

Fly & Drive avoids the expenses and the problems of foreign motoring. Fly & Drive gives you more time to relax.

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Moderate wins in AUEW postal ballot

In a postal ballot Mr John Boyd, a moderate, has been elected general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers. Mr Hugh Scanlon, left-wing president of the union, announced the result yesterday. Mr Boyd defeated Mr Robert Wright, his "broad left" opponent by 164,276 votes to 96,216, a majority of 68,000 in a 301 per cent poll. But the postal ballot did not achieve the expected defeat of militants in the voting for full-time local officers.

Olympics go ahead

Lord Killanin, the president of the International Olympic Committee, said yesterday that the 1976 Games would go on despite industrial disputes which have delayed work on facilities in Montreal. Mexico City has offered to be hosts if Montreal fails to overcome its problems.

Steel reforms go-ahead

Implementation of the agreement between the British Steel Corporation and the union to save £100m on wages this year has been ordered by BSC. Page 19

Chile torture file

Detailed, authenticated evidence of continuing street arrests and brutal interrogations in Chile, leading in some cases to death has led the country's Roman Catholic leaders to seek a meeting with General Pinochet, head of the military junta.



Miss Doris Mellor, aged 81 (above), yesterday won her fight to save Bachelors' Acre, New Windsor, as a common for sports and pastimes. The Court of Appeal confirmed its registration as a town green, and dismissed an appeal by Windsor and Maidenhead Royal Borough, who are now using part of it as a car park. Law Report, page 9

Lisbon Government closes newspaper

The Portuguese Government yesterday closed down the Lisbon newspaper *República* and ordered its offices to be sealed. Socialists had surrounded the building after Communist rioters workers seized and locked up the editors. The Government intervened, employees were escorted through the crowd in armoured cars. Page 5

'Times' attacked

Mr Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, said yesterday a report in the Times on his country's contacts with Liberia contained inaccuracies, was unbalanced and reflected a distorted view of southern African détente operation. Page 6

Women Tories: Conservative women yesterday cheered Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone on freedom and Europe. There was criticism that an EEC debate was unfair.

Lord Shawcross: Labour Party withdraws complaint to Press Council about press coverage of Lord Bann because of "partiality" of Lord Shawcross, council chairman. Page 2

Resistance to cuts: The TUC's rejection of proposed Budget cuts in public spending will be made clear to the Chancellor today.

Prague: Secret newspaper circulating in Czechoslovakia reports the arrest of a leading dissident and a new job for Mr Dubcek. Page 6

Pensions and Retirement: Ten-page Special Report examines prospects in the light of Mrs Castle's Bill.

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killed in crash

Two people were killed and a third injured when a small plane crashed into a field near a school in Glasgow yesterday. The plane was a Cessna 441, registered G-BABY, and was flying from Glasgow to Edinburgh. The pilot, a 35-year-old man, was killed. The two passengers, a 15-year-old girl and a 12-year-old boy, were also killed. The third passenger, a 40-year-old man, was injured and taken to hospital. The crash occurred at 10.15 on May 20. The plane was flying at a low altitude when it crashed. The cause of the crash is not yet known.

all result Northern Ireland 0

HOME NEWS

SDLP may challenge proposed Convention rules in High Court

By Christopher Walker
Belfast

The short-term future of Northern Ireland's Constitutional Convention was in the balance last night as members of the predominantly Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party took legal advice about the possibility of challenging in the High Court its proposed set of procedural rules.

At a meeting in Belfast today, members of the SDLP's Convention party are expected to decide whether or not to seek an injunction to prevent the Convention from adopting procedure voted through earlier this week by the "loyalist" majority on the rules committee.

If a decision for legal action is taken, the SDLP's council will seek a court ruling that the proposal to present only one final report from the Convention is ultra vires under the Northern Ireland Act, 1974.

Any ensuing High Court case would centre on the legal interpretation of a number of sections of the Act, including a clause in section 2, which states: "The Convention shall transmit to the Secretary of State a report or reports on its conclusions and the Secretary of State shall lay such a report before Parliament."

In Belfast legal circles it was being argued last night that a High Court judgment might be the only way of sorting out the dispute over the meaning of the Act. If it took place, the Convention might well have to be adjourned until judgment was given.

Although Mr Rees, Secretary

of State for Northern Ireland, and his advisers have been careful to make no public comment, it is believed that they are depressed and angry at the squabbling which has broken out, even before the 78-member Convention has staged its first major debate.

In keeping with original intentions, the Government has not intervened, but privately Mr Rees is known to oppose any idea of the convention presenting majority and minority reports on its conclusions. The loyalists maintain that his Commons speech last summer supported completely their plans for presenting only one final report.

On the surface the argument may appear petty and bureaucratic, but many politicians from other parties as well as the SDLP feel that it is vital for the future of the Convention. They fear that the loyalists will use their majority to prevent minority viewpoints from being adequately expressed, particularly on power-sharing.

The SDLP is angry that a loyalist dominated business committee will decide on topics for discussion in the Convention and at what it says has been the eroding of the powers of the chairman, Sir Robert Lowry.

Captain Austin Ardill, one of the seven loyalists on the rules committee, maintained last night that it had adhered strictly to the conditions laid down in the Northern Ireland Act and to advice given by Mr Rees and the Stormont clerks who helped to draft the standing orders.

Students' grants up to £740 a year

By a Staff Reporter

Students' grants are to be increased by between 20 and 22 per cent from September, Mr Pringle, Secretary of State for Education and Science, announced in the Commons yesterday.

The award, as foreshadowed in the Times of May 1, is based on the increase in the cost of living in the past 12 months, and so is strictly within the terms of the social contract.

Students in London living away from home will have their grant increased from £665 to £810, students outside London from £605 to £740, and those living at home from £475 to £570. The starting point for parental contributions has been raised from a residual income of £1,600 to £2,200.

The lower rate of grant for married women has been abolished and they will now receive the full grant. Married women will also be able to claim dependants' allowances in the same way as men.

The increase will cost an extra £44m, bringing the total cost of students' grants to public funds in the coming academic year to £244m.

Mr John Randall, president of the National Union of Students, said the increases were disappointing.

Dog attacks child

Melissa Bloss, aged three, of Lime Tree Avenue, Crewe, Cheshire, was treated at hospital yesterday after being attacked by an Alsatian dog, whose owner later had it destroyed.

Militants evade defeat in engineers' postal ballot for local offices

Moderate Mr John Boyd wins key union post

By Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Mr John Boyd, a moderate union leader, has been swept into power as general secretary of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers with a big majority over his left-wing rival, but the postal ballot system that put him there has not achieved the expected defeat of militant candidates for full-time office.

In a run-off against Mr Bob Wright, the "broad left" candidate, Mr Boyd, a former chairman of the Labour Party, scored a runaway victory of 164,276 to 96,216 in a 30.1 per cent poll of those on the union's electoral roll. He described his election as "a great fillip to all the social democratic forces inside the union".

Mr Kenneth Brett, left-wing assistant general secretary, has been forced to a second ballot to defend his job, but left candidates won three of the four national officers' jobs voted on in the postal balloting. Mr Gavin Laird, a moderate, was re-elected to the key post of Scottish regional organizer, but in 21 other local elections the results at first sight showed "no change", with the left losing Barrow and Kendal but winning Bristol.

These voting results form the background to the bitter dispute in the union's dominant engineering section over the abandonment of postal voting for main union posts at branch meetings.

Two individual complaints to the engineers' executive council from South Wales protesting at the disqualification of two local delegates to the union's rule revision con-

ference last week were deferred yesterday until June 2, on the ground that two members of the executive were absent on negotiations with the shipbuilding employers.

When the "full" executive meets in two weeks' time Mr Boyd will be present as general secretary but unable to vote. A move by him to postpone declaration of the ballot result failed yesterday. It now seems likely that the two appeals will be rejected, and a High Court action aimed at setting aside the casting-vote election.

Mr Hugh Scanlon, the union president, said postal ballots should be abolished at the end of the year will go ahead.

Voting in the ballots ranged from about 27 per cent to 55 per cent in the poll that ousted Mr E. A. Montgomery, the left-wing sitting district secretary in Barrow. The poll disparity may be explained by the fact that only about 870,000 of the union's 1,200,000 members are on the electoral roll, so that nearly a third of those who might want to vote are effectively disfranchised.

Mr Boyd, speaking after his success had been announced to the press by Mr Scanlon, said the election was "a very mixed bag", showing "no obvious political pattern". Of his own result, he said: "The communists, Trotskyists and international Socialists and the like are in the interest of the members."



Mr John Boyd: "A great fillip to social democratic forces"

Mr Wright, aged 54, defeated by Mr Boyd, is like him, a member of the executive council. He argued after the first ballot, which went two to one against him, that an anti-left press had had "a big influence". He said: "But I concede that it was a larger majority than I expected. I have made no compromise in basic left-wing policies, which I believe are in the interest of the members."

The internal political rift simmering in the union over the past few months will break into the open with Mr Boyd's election. As general secretary he has control of the union's administration and the monthly Journal. Although he is now 57, he will have to

stand again for election in three years' time.

The national organizers' elections, the "ballotings" produced a win for Mr John Forster, a communist, defending his seat. In a 28.5 poll he took 138,468 votes to Mr Patrick Gregory's 109,308. In the three vacant seats, Mr Laurie Smith, a left winger, polled 133,624 to Mr John Weakley's 112,268. Mr John Weakley was one of the South Wales delegates to the rules revision conference sent home because the executive ruled that his credentials were not in order.

Mrs Gita Morgan, a moderate, failed to beat off a militant challenge by Mr Robert Wainman, who won 143,775 votes to her 104,108. Mr E. T. Happle was the only moderate to take one of these important posts. He polled 144,350, well over twice Mr E. T. Happle's 61,609, registered by his nearest rival, Mr Bernard Panter, a communist, who has just been refused a job with the Electrical Power Engineers' Association.

In Scotland, Mr Boyd's likely successor on the executive council, Mr Gavin Laird, kept the regional organizer's job with a vote of 17,583 to 10,267 against Mr James Aitken, his communist rival, and one of the Upper Clyde Shipbuilders' work-in leaders.

The election for assistant general secretary had to go to a second ballot with Mr Kenneth Brett, the left-wing incumbent, trailing by 60,775 votes to 74,354 taken by Mr James Docherty, his moderate rival in the first poll. In all the regional elections, the poll was 28 to 30 per cent of those empowered to participate, or 22 to 24 per cent of the actual membership.

Benn press coverage complaint withdrawn

By a Staff Reporter

The Labour Party has drawn a complaint to the Council about newspaper coverage of Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Transport, House of Commons, the matter would cause the council's chair Lord Shawcross.

Mr Ronald Haywar, party's general secretary, made the complaint in a letter to the council yesterday. As a result of recent speeches made by the council it strikes me that it is quite impossible to obtain a fair and balanced picture of the council under his leadership.

The complaint would be before the Royal Commission on the Press, he added. Last week Lord St. gave a warning of the of having a complaint presented on Mr Benn's to the City.

Mr Noel Paul, the secretary, issued a statement yesterday which said: "Hayward wrote to me on February 28 to say the complaint was in which national newspaper nationalizes news concern Benn". He complained about a meeting on May 10 of a party considering Burma O.

Mr Hayward said it been thought necessary that Mr Benn had left before the oil item, the national newspaper to the conclusion that was in the chair. T papers were told of it but only The Sun print claim.

Mr Paul notified me of the complaint and I said the Daily Mail could find no comment from the Labour Party mar.

Mr Paul replied to ward on March 3 and he told me that he wished to make again paper.

Yesterday's statement there was no reply to t and a second was sent port House on April 1. The statement added suggestion about Lord St. in Mr Hayward yesterday was "both and unnecessary". Lord cross did not preside complaints committee.

Man's alibi supported by former wife

Mrs Wendy Pitts wife of William Copel is accused at Chester Court of murdering her 10-year-old son. She said she was Manchester with Mr during the summer when the girl, from M Cheshire, disappeared. never away from her night.

Mrs Pitts, who has r and lives in High St Glosop, Derbyshire, and Mr Copeland wen don on August 29, to sister and mother. H to go out a lot at n the visit. "Sometimes not come home till I said.

Mr Copeland, age gardener, of Batwor House, Arundel, Sus denied murdering Jan on August 14, 1966. He was found buried in North Wales three year. The trial continues.

Tower Bridge engine saved

A London man bought one of the hydraulic engines that Tower Bridge for 8 hopes to show it abroa example of British engi. Mr L. N. Johnson, a director of a motor ag Hornsey, north Lond born in Limehouse and watched the bascules bridge being raised lowered. The engines h replaced during mod.

New control on firearms for N Ireland

By Our Political Staff

A new regulation to control the removal of firearms and ammunition from Britain to Northern Ireland, which will come into effect on June 9, was published by Mr Jenkins, Home Secretary, in Parliament yesterday. Dealers wishing to send or take firearms, shotguns or ammunition will need the approval of a chief constable, who would act in agreement with the Northern Ireland authorities.

The regulation formalizes the existing arrangement for close cooperation between the police forces of Britain and Northern Ireland. Genuine and lawful transactions will not be stopped.

Mr Wilson asks Tories how they would handle crisis

Continued from page 1

there will be adequate representation of the Front Bench opposite to that debate; I think it is highly desirable. I hope we shall hear from the Opposition what areas of public expenditure they will cut." He had not the faintest glimmering what Conservative or Liberal policy was.

As Opposition backbenchers probed for weaknesses on Mr Wilson's flank, Mr Wedgwood Benn, Secretary of State for Industry, came into the argument.

Mr Wilson flatly repudiated Mr Benn's assertion on Sunday that United Kingdom membership of the EEC had thrown 500,000 workers out of a job; and then he repudiated the proposal for channelling institutional and pension funds into industry by saying it was not

government policy but the idea of a subcommittee of Labour's national executive committee.

Opening tomorrow, Mrs Thatcher will put forward three main suggestions for bringing inflation under control. First public expenditure should be cut to a level the nation can afford. Secondly, the wage guidelines of the social contract should be revised with anti-inflationary provisions built in. Thirdly, the "community mobility" should be encouraged to tackle militancy at its source.

The Shadow Cabinet motion reads: "That this House, being gravely disturbed by the total failure of the policies of HM Government to cut the accelerating rate of inflation, calls upon HM Government to abandon their damaging plans for further nationalization, to take immediate action to cut public expenditure, and to secure a re-

duction in the level of pay settlements, as essential parts of a programme designed to restore confidence and promote the economic recovery of the nation."

Mr Wilson nowadays loses few opportunities to goad the Conservatives, under new leadership, for lack of an agreed economic strategy. But there need be no doubt that the motion commands the full support of the Shadow Cabinet in its summary of the emergency action that any government today ought to pursue.

Both Mrs Thatcher and Sir Geoffrey Howe, the shadow Chancellor, are expected to call for an early announcement by the Government of the abandonment or indefinite postponement of further nationalization. But, amid all the economic uncertainties that lie ahead after the EEC referendum on June 5, it is likely that Opposi-

tion frontbench and backbench speeches will mark out the ground on which the Government would be given support if the crisis worsens.

Although it is a naive exaggeration to suggest that feelers will be put out for a working coalition, the Shadow Cabinet certainly recognizes that if the United Kingdom's creditors threaten to foreclose with little or no warning, unless a drastic package of economic measures was brought in Mr Wilson might have no other recourse than to seek the support of the Conservatives and Liberals.

There is plenty of evidence that mounting public apprehension about an imminent crisis causes concern to both ministers and shadow ministers who know that their future policies must be founded on continued membership of the EEC.

Tory women cheer Lord Hailsham on freedom

By Penny Symon
Political Staff

Sprightly tunes were played over the piped music system in Central Hall, Westminster, as 2,000 Conservative women gathered for their annual conference yesterday. Eager to shatter the myth that women would rather not vote for a woman, they were obviously elated at having a woman leader.

Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone was greeted with cheers as he mounted the platform to give a spirited speech on freedom under the law. The women loved it, clapping and crying "Hear hear" before he had reached the end of his first paragraph, and it continued like that throughout.

Freedom under law, through parliamentary institutions, was the specific contribution of western Europe to the government of mankind, he said. Britain had grave social and economic troubles but the political and moral crisis was the important issue.

Our whole philosophy of freedom under law was at stake, "the very thing which entitles us to take our place with pride among the community of European nations," Lord Hailsham said.

Labour was split into two groups, each pursuing incompatible ends. "But the consequence of each is going to be disaster, and the effect of each will be the destruction of liberty."

In the end the people of Britain would not submit to the voices of socialism, "unless they can first be made to accept a

siege economy as a matter of economic necessity."

"I think it certainly would happen within days or a week or two if we left the European Community," Lord Hailsham said. "The very ministers most eager to enslave us on the economic and social front are equally eager for a negative vote on the referendum."

Mr Forster and Mr Benn wanted people to vote "as if the referendum, or in aid of the alleged freedom and independence of Britain, which they were in process of destroying. Their backbenchers justify the sitting of criticism by writing articles and letters to The Times, to the tune of 'we are the masters now'. It is time for Britain to past them out."

Lord Hailsham received a standing ovation, but all did not continue smoothly when the conference debated the European issue.

Mrs Linda Whetstone, from East Grinstead, asked to speak against the motion but was told that it had been a fair debate, with eight times as many people wishing to speak for the motion as against.

Mrs Whetstone heard a speech by Mr Mandling, shadow Foreign Secretary, and caught up with him as he was leaving. She complained bitterly that the debate had been unfair. Mr Mandling looked embarrassed.

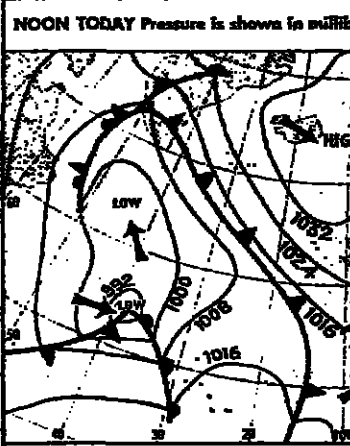
"I should have been given a chance to put my anti-Market case, particularly as the arguments set out in the conference agenda booklet is misleading", she said.

Twelve years for bank-raid plotter

What Mr Justice Davies said had been called the "failed crime of the century" brought Lawrence Frederick Harrington, a street trader, a 12-year sentence at Cardiff Crown Court yesterday. Mr Harrington, aged 46, of Hamilton Street, Canton, Cardiff, was found guilty of conspiracy to rob a Cardiff bank last year.

Two security alarm installation engineers were jailed for three years for their part in the conspiracy. Tom Hall Griffith, aged 51, of Llanover Road, Cuddesdon, Crues, Cardiff, and William John Everleigh, aged 28, of Brynsadler, Pontyclun, South Glamorgan, were found guilty.

Channel Islands, SW England: Mainly dry, cloudy at first, sun periods developing; wind N, light; max temp 16°C (61°F).



Today

Sun rises: 5.1 am; Moon sets: 8.54 pm; Moon rises: 2.48 am; 4.32 pm.

Full Moon: May 25.

Lighting up: 9.24 pm to 4.30 am.

High water: London Bridge, 11.5 am, 6.7m (22.1ft); 1.10 pm, 6.8m (22.6ft); Avonmouth, 4.15 am, 11.6m (38.2ft); 4.58 pm, 11.9m (39.0ft); Dover, 8.21 am, 5.9m (19.5ft); 8.44 pm, 6.2m (20.3ft); Hull, 3.16 am, 6.3m (20.6ft); 3.30 pm, 6.6m (21.7ft); Liverpool, 8.29 am, 6.4m (21.0ft); 9.5 pm, 8.5m (27.8ft).

An anticyclone will intensify near Iceland, and a N airstream will extend to most of the British Isles.

Area forecasts:

SE England, East Anglia: Dry, rather cloudy, some sunny intervals; wind N, moderate; max temp 14°C (57°F).

Central England, Midlands: Dry, broken cloud, sunny intervals; wind N, light; max temp 14°C (57°F).

Wales, NW England: Dry, sunny periods, overnight frost; max temp 12°C (54°F).

Lake District, Isle of Man, SW Scotland, Glasgow, N Ireland: Dry, sunny periods, overnight frost; max temp 14°C (57°F).

E and NE England, Borders, Edinburgh, Dundee, Central Highlands: Rather cloudy, a few showers, brief intervals; wind moderate or fresh; max temp 11°C (52°F).

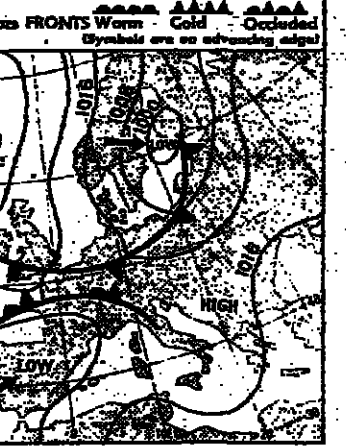
Argyll, NW Scotland: Dry, sunny periods, overnight frost in sheltered areas; wind N, light; max temp 12°C (54°F).

Aberdeen, Moray Firth, NE Scotland, Orkney, Shetland: Broken cloud and sunny intervals, scattered showers; wind N, moderate or fresh; max temp 9°C (48°F).

Outlook for tomorrow and Friday: Mostly dry, sunny spells, perhaps showers over E and SE England; cool in E, rather cool in W.

WEATHER REPORTS YESTERDAY

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Pressure
London	12.0	10	100	1015
Birmingham	11.0	12	100	1015
Manchester	10.0	15	100	1015
Cardiff	11.0	10	100	1015
Belfast	10.0	12	100	1015
Edinburgh	9.0	10	100	1015
Glasgow	8.0	12	100	1015
Liverpool	10.0	10	100	1015
Nottingham	11.0	12	100	1015
Sheffield	10.0	10	100	1015
Southampton	12.0	10	100	1015
Wolverhampton	11.0	12	100	1015
York	10.0	10	100	1015



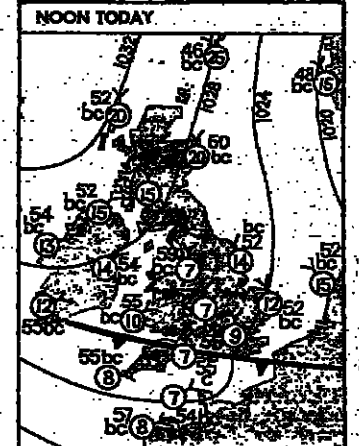
Yesterday

London: Temp: max 7 am to 7 pm, 21°C (70°F); min 7 am to 7 pm, 8°C (46°F). Humidity, 7 pm, 46 per cent. Rain, 24hr, 7 pm, nil. Sun, 24hr to 7 pm, 14.8hr. Barometer, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1,023.6 millibars, falling. 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

At the resorts

24-hours to 6 pm, May 20

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Pressure
South Coast	10.0	10	100	1015
West Coast	9.0	12	100	1015
North Coast	8.0	10	100	1015
East Coast	7.0	12	100	1015
South Coast	10.0	10	100	1015
West Coast	9.0	12	100	1015
North Coast	8.0	10	100	1015
East Coast	7.0	12	100	1015



Overseas sailing prices

Area	Temp	Wind	Cloud	Pressure
London	12.0	10	100	1015
Birmingham	11.0	12	100	1015
Manchester	10.0	15	100	1015
Cardiff	11.0	10	100	1015
Belfast	10.0	12	100	1015
Edinburgh	9.0	10	100	1015
Glasgow	8.0	12	100	1015
Liverpool	10.0	10	100	1015
Nottingham	11.0	12	100	1015
Sheffield	10.0	10	100	1015
Southampton	12.0	10	100	1015
Wolverhampton	11.0	12	100	1015
York	10.0	10	100	1015

Postal union its rates up

Facing the prospect more than film in the Union of Post Office agreed yesterday on a 10 per cent reduction in exp. Delegates at the conference at Blackpool als to increase the 22p adult contribution 1 200,000 members by 15 pence, and budgeted under £2m to run the u year.

Tower Bridge engine saved

A London man bought one of the hydraulic engines that Tower Bridge for 8 hopes to show it abroa example of British engi. Mr L. N. Johnson, a director of a motor ag Hornsey, north Lond born in Limehouse and watched the bascules bridge being raised lowered. The engines h replaced during mod.

TIM

W. Germany: Euro most successful soc

The Mayaguez Inci

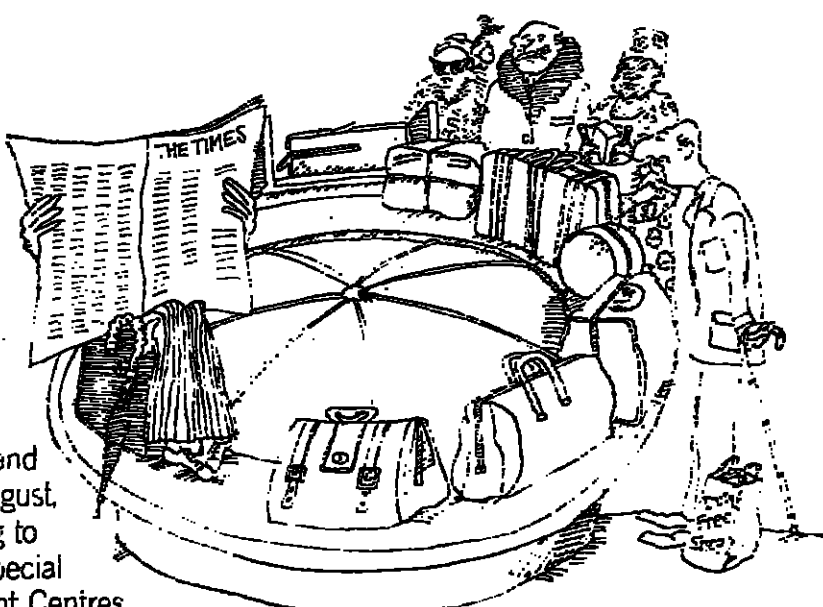
This turn Left

Israel's Banned Bo

Angola's Bloody Pus

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Starting in May and running through to August, The Times is planning to publish a series of Special Reports on Investment Centres of the World.

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The reports will include the following areas: Aberdeen, Alberta, Amsterdam, Beirut, Brazil, Caracas, The Caribbean, Hong Kong, India, Johannesburg, Lagos, Nairobi, Panama, The Philippines, Singapore, Teheran, United Arab Emirates and Wall Street.

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of the whole country and will provide other relevant data for the potential investor.

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HOME NEWS

TUC to tell Chancellor rejects Budget its in public spending

Raymond Perman, TUC general secretary, said today that it rejects cuts in public spending proposed in the Budget which might mean a rise in unemployment in the summer and more next spring. It was made plain yesterday by Mr Len Murray, the general secretary, during a visit to the conference of the National Union of Public Employees (Nuppe) at Scarborough, which he warned both the Government and the unions to accept the social contract. A motion to reject the Budget was defeated by a narrow majority.

Murray said he was disappointed that the use of unemployment as an economic lever was being deployed. The TUC would not go with the passive acceptance of that process. When the economic committee met today this afternoon that message they would give him, he added.

The fact that the Government has introduced these measures in the Budget does not mean that we have got to accept it. You would not

Government suffers third defeat on sex Bill

The Government was defeated during the committee stage of the Sex Discrimination Bill in the Commons for the third time, yesterday when two Labour MPs supported a Conservative amendment ending restriction on hours worked by women.

Mr Ian Gilmour, shadow Home Secretary, moved the amendment to repeal parts of the 1961 Factories Act, which restricts women's working hours and forbids them to work with moving machinery.

It was carried by eight votes to five with the support of the two Labour MPs, Mr Roderick MacFarquhar (Belper) and Miss Josephine Barker.

Mr Gilmour said it was ludicrous that outdated restrictions should be perpetuated in a Bill designed to promote equality of opportunity.

Mr Fraser, Under-Secretary at the Department of Employment, said that removing protective legislation might expose women to exploitation.

The Government has also been defeated during the committee stage on proposals to enable men to become midwives and on outlawing single-sex trade unions. The Bill will now go to the full House for

In brief

Optimism on sclerosis

Research may be near the stage where the cause of multiple sclerosis will be understood and effective treatment developed, Mr George Teeling-Smith, director of the Office of Health Economics, said yesterday.

He was reflecting the cautious optimism in a report on the disease, which has about 50,000 sufferers in Britain, compiled by Mr Nicholas Wells of the office. He dismisses as a popular misconception that multiple or disseminated sclerosis.

MULTIPLE Sclerosis (Office of Health Economics, 162 Regent Street, London, W1, 2Sp).

Car safety award

The 16,700 Lotus Elite sports car is the 1974 winner of the Don Trophy, one of the leading British safety awards. The trophy was presented to Mr Colin Chapman, chairman of Lotus, by Mr Mulley, Minister for Transport in London yesterday.

Labour keeps control

Labour will retain control of Birmingham District Council for the next year. By the casting vote of the retiring lord mayor, Councillor James Eames, yesterday, Councillor Albert Jackson (Lab) became his successor.

Register office raid

Two safes containing details of about two hundred births, marriages and deaths recorded in the past six months were stolen yesterday from Peterborough registrar office.

Student found dead

Susan Elizabeth Holmes, aged 21, a third-year student at St Anne's College, Oxford, was found dead in her room at a college on a road in Bradmore Road, Oxford, yesterday.

Tories' Oxford four

Douglas Hogg, aged 30, son of Lord Hailsham of St Marylebone, former Lord Chancellor, is on a short list of four Conservative parliamentary candidates for Oxford.

First saliva test

Detectives have taken their first saliva test in the hunt for the Cambridge rapist and have eliminated the man from their inquiries.

Fire in ship

Nearly forty firemen fought a fire in an Argentine cargo ship in Southampton docks yesterday. No one was injured.

Pose & PC alleged

The Director of Public Prosecutions has issued a summons against Timothy Miles, a freelance journalist, of Cornwall Crescent, Northing Hill, London, to be heard tomorrow week at the Central Criminal Court. It alleges that he made a statement calculated to suggest he was a member of a police force, at the home of Mr Leslie Newton, the driver of the Moorgate Tube train, in New Cross.

Demotions now threaten Ulster jail security

From Clive Borrell, Belfast. Security in Ulster prisons may soon face a complete breakdown because of the demotion of two prison officers after a mass escape from the courthouse at Newry two months ago.

Mr Sidney Powell, chairman of the 16,500-strong Prison Officers' Association, said yesterday that the two hundred officers sent to Northern Ireland on detachment from Britain might be advised to withdraw unless the two officers received "justice". Such a move would effectively reduce the prison staff in Northern Ireland by a quarter.

In his annual address to the association at Felixstowe, he said: "There was a mass escape of prisoners from the prison in Newry on March 10.

vil servants want to stay in London

Peter Hennessy, secretary of the annual conference of the Association of Professional Civil Servants, at Eastbourne, yesterday expressed opposition to the compulsory transfer of civil servants from London to the provinces unless it is to improve efficiency. Under the Government's dispersal plans 31,000 civil servants are scheduled to leave the capital in the next nine years.

William McCall, general secretary of the association, which represents 100,000 civil servants in the scientific, technical, professional grades of the Civil Service, spoke of the "confrontation with the Government's dispersal programme."

At the annual conference of the Association of First Division Civil Servants, held in private

Union official resigns over strike decision

By Diana Geddes. Mr Terence Lyon, secretary of the staff side of the joint negotiating committee of the 3,000-member Association of Justices' Clerks' Assistants, has resigned over the association's decision to strike unless it obtains a salary reconstruction by July 1976. He objected that the meeting at which the decision was taken was "packed" by union militants.

The eight other staff members of the negotiating team have decided to stay on to complete the present round of negotiations, a 30 per cent pay rise from July 1975, but they will not stand for reelection in October.

Justices' clerks' assistants, with justices' clerks, are responsible for the administration of magistrates' courts

Tax immigrants swell Manx budget receipts

From Our Correspondent, Douglas, Isle of Man. The Isle of Man continues to flourish as a financial centre, and because of it a no-change budget was laid before Tynwald yesterday by Mr John Bolton, the island's chancellor.

Income tax receipts were soaring, and were expected to be £10.5m in the financial year 1975-76, more than double those of 1972-73. They had been swelled by people and companies who had moved to the island for tax reasons.

The budget surplus, £2.5m, and prospects for the Manx economy looked good, he said.

Changes urged over prison visitors boards

By Marcel Berlins, Legal Correspondent. Prison boards of visitors should no longer act as adjudicators on offences against prison discipline, a report published today recommends.

A committee under the chairmanship of Lord Jellicoe proposed instead that prisoners on serious disciplinary charges, which might involve loss of remission, should be tried by a professional chairman, chosen from a panel of senior lawyers, including if possible circuit judges, and two lay magistrates.

The committee was set up jointly by the all-party lawyers' body Justice, the National Association for the Care and Resettlement of Offenders (Nacro), and the Howard League for Penal Reform.

The report says boards of visitors should continue to exercise their supervisory functions. Under the Prison Rules they are given the duty to "satisfy themselves as to the state of the prison premises, the administration of the prison, and the treatment of prisoners."

It would be retrograde to do anything that would reduce the openness of penal institutions, it says. The constitutional argument for independent, outside supervision was overwhelming.

To be effective, and acceptable both to prisoners and the prison authorities, the board has to be independent. Former prisoners, however, felt strongly that the board was too much part of the system to be independent of the administration.

Acting as adjudicators, the committee concluded, was incompatible with its supervisory role. "The body responsible for supervision should not have a disciplinary function."

To make boards of visitors more effective, the committee proposes that regular weekly clinics should be introduced in prisons, to allow a prisoner to discuss his difficulties or complaints in private with a board member. Prisoners should also be given more information about the board's functions.

Visits to prisons should be more frequent.

More of an attempt should be made to recruit younger people as visitors, with wider experience and interests. At present nearly 60 per cent of the 1,400 members of boards,

middle class to al change

From Our Correspondent, Middle Class Association. Six months ago the interests of the middle class and self-employed in change in the Independent.

A questionnaire survey of over 10,000 members that most of them did the word "class" in their name.

During the change yesterday John Gort, Conservative MP for Hendon, North, under of the association, said the questionnaire showed "a fundamental change that has taken place in the middle class. Whether this is a re-evaluation of the perception, it is not a day."

L. P. S. Orr, the group's spokesman, said the association had the less "not appeared in the. He hoped members could now increase.

ic oath and Scots trial

Scottish Army "confrontation at the High Court" was halted yesterday as the accused men to take the oath in and demanded to take the oath. After an adjournment, William Bell, who wore a plaid over his shoulder, was called to give evidence to the court.

Mr Bell, aged 45, of Greig, is one of six men who have denied conspiring for the purposes of the Scottish Army of the Proclamation by criminal.

At the end of yesterday's trial, Mr Hugh Morton, QC, deputy, told the court that the prosecution was not satisfied with the evidence of the men, John Bell, because of lack of evidence.

Mr Bell, aged 35, of Albert Hill, Glasgow, was free to leave the court today to judge formally directed to find him not guilty.

for Proms

20 tickets for the last of the Promenade Concerts, September 20, will be allocated to 2000 seats for the 2000 seats in the promenade places made to the Albert Hall.

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A beautiful collector's case to protect and display the entire collection is provided at no additional charge

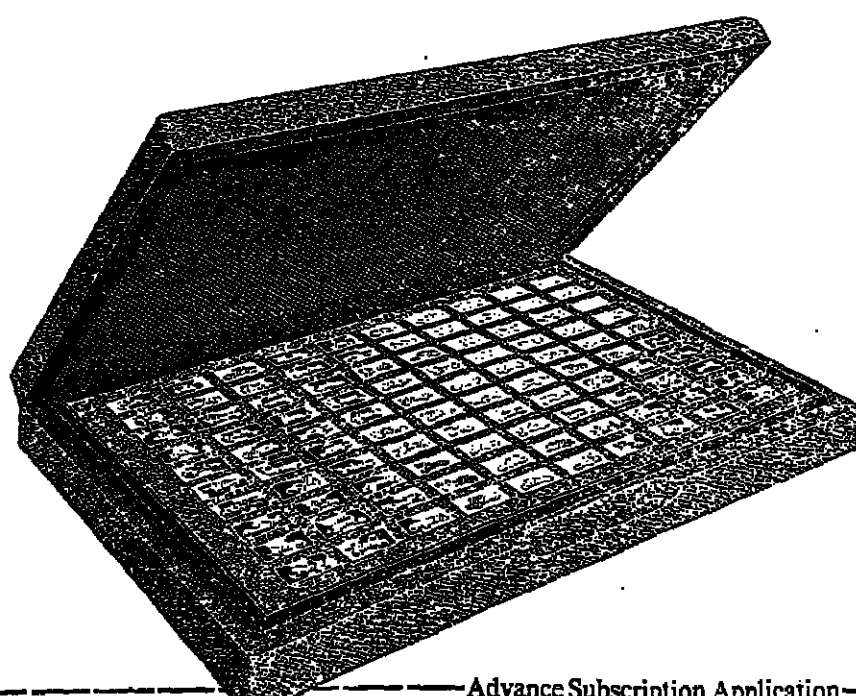
Great cars - chosen by the experts

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The subscription application to The 100 Greatest Cars Silver Miniature Collection must be postmarked by 31st May, 1975. There is a further limit of one set per subscriber. Thus, the number of sets issued in Britain will be limited to the exact number of subscription applications postmarked no later than 31st May, 1975.

Because of the international significance of the collection, similarly limited single issues are being made available abroad by Pinches' associates, but the subscription period up to 31st May is the only time that subscriptions can be accepted in Great Britain.

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EC REFERENDUM

Wilson-Callaghan plan for bigger role in 'Yes' vote campaign

Our Diplomatic Correspondent

Mr Wilson and Mr Callaghan, stepping up their activities the final two weeks of the referendum campaign. The main aim of the Government's campaign for a "Yes" vote comes from the close relationship between the Prime Minister and the Foreign Secretary, and they are in it on a daily basis.

In Wilson, though his speech engagements have not been announced by Downing Street, he is communicating himself to the people in the days, it is understood, in a speech to the Confederation of British Industry last week. He will wind up his campaign by appearing with Callaghan at an end-of-poll rally in Cardiff.

The Government is well served by the way the campaign seems to be going, but it is not for granted, for the extraordinary energy and opinion polls, they continue to be to justify the positive aspects of the campaign, while the negative aspects are being dealt with. The Prime Minister, who has kept out of the campaign so far, could usefully reinforce the Government's case.

Wilson sees the referendum as a referendum on the future of the country, and he is not alone in this view. The public with too much detail but bringing the referendum to the attention of the public.

More than 40 million people will be eligible to vote in the referendum, according to figures issued yesterday by the Office of Population Censuses and Surveys (the Association reports).

40,565,570 total includes:

513,699 people whose eighth birthday occurs during the lifetime of the present register, which goes into operation on February 16. Only those with birthdays before June 5 can vote in the referendum.

That brings the number to just under 154,000, according to Press Association calculations giving an actual electorate of about 40,205,700.

Of the 68 counties, regions and island areas where votes will be counted, Greater London has the largest electorate, 2,257,498, including those in the Greater London Council area. Service votes outside the United Kingdom will be counted with those of Greater London.

The figures include all people registered as service voters whether resident in the United Kingdom or abroad, and people who have died or emigrated since the qualifying date last October.

The total electorate breaks down as follows: England 33,756,674; Wales 2,037,792; Scotland 3,733,357; Northern Ireland 1,042,747.

The total of electors eligible to vote at the general election in October was 40,072,971. Textile fears: If Britain withdraws from the EEC, the wool textile industry will probably lose £50m of business involving about five thousand jobs by 1977, Mr Philip Brook, chairman of the National Wool Textile Export Corporation, said yesterday in Bradford (four Business News Staff writers).

Mr Brook said wool textile exporters were solidly united in support of the referendum, and that nothing had happened since Britain joined had changed the situation.

The main overriding reasons for the referendum are the commercial and economic. "We are businessmen, not politicians, and unlike the latter we have to face the harsh realities of the market place every day of our working lives."

The EEC last year took £67m of the industry's total exports. It was without question, the world's largest market for textile products.

Caroline Moorehead, page 14

WEST EUROPE

Baader case may last two years

From Dan van der Vat
Stuttgart, May 20

In a specially-built concrete and aluminium fortress on the northern outskirts of this city, the most elaborate judicial process to take place on German soil since the Nuremberg trials begins tomorrow.

Two men and two women, alleged to constitute the hard core of the Baader-Meinhof group of terrorists, face trial on the longest indictment ever drawn up in Germany, just one of a long series of superlatives attaching to this case.

The 354-page document accuses them of founding an armed terrorist organization, of six political bombings in which five died and 54 were injured, of murdering a policeman and of three attempted murders, six bank raids and a series of lesser crimes.

Documents relating to the case run to about 50,000 sheets of paper organized in 1,800 box files. There are some 40,000 exhibits and 1,000 technical reports. As many as 1,000 witnesses may be called during the trial, which could go on for two years at a cost of £3m.

The accused are: Andreas Baader, aged 32, the son of an academic, Ulrike Meinhof, 40, a journalist and mother of twins; Gudrun Ensslin, 34, daughter of an evangelical minister; and Jan-Carl Raspe, 30, who holds a diploma in sociology.

These four have been in custody for three years awaiting trial. They were arrested in the summer of 1972 after the largest, lengthiest and costliest police operation in West German history.

To see the building which has been erected for the trial at a cost of £2.5m next to Stammheim prison for the first time to be confronted with an awesome demonstration of the power of the state. A tall fence topped with barbed wire surrounds the building. There are powerful lamps and searchlights at intervals around the perimeter. Overhead are fine steel wires to stop helicopters landing on the roof or in the yard.

The windows, all high up, are bullet-proof. The concrete walls are blast proof. Television cameras monitor the building inside and out, and a network of electronic alarms has been built in. Nearby is a police helicopter landing pad. For the opening of the trial 500 police and federal border guards will be on duty in and around the building. The courtroom, which measures 70 feet by 100 feet, gives police in an overhead gallery a clear field of fire, while judges and prosecutors will be shielded by bullet-proof screens. The local police chief controls an arsenal for protecting the building of 800 sub-machine-guns, 200 large calibre pistols, snipers' rifles, bullet proof vests and other items, sufficient for an infantry battalion.

The only question which remains to be answered is whether in these siege conditions a fair trial is possible.

Most disturbing of all has been the exclusion from the trial of one defence lawyer after another in the past few weeks, on grounds of suspected abuse of sessions with the accused. By tomorrow, some of the new defence lawyers allocated by the court will have had only five weeks to study the hundreds of pounds of documents in the case. They can thus be expected to ask for an adjournment quite early in the proceedings.

Appeal to press over child kidnapping case

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, May 20

The parents of Claudio Chiacchierini, an 11-year-old boy kidnapped on Saturday, have appealed to the Italian press to ignore the case in the hope that the kidnappers will be encouraged to make contact with the family.

The boy's mother also made a personal appeal to the kidnappers. After two days of anguish she said "inexorably dying", she said.

Yesterday, an anonymous caller telephoned the home of Signor Antonio Campomizzi, a Rome businessman, stating that his son had been kidnapped and was being held for ransom. The caller instructed Signora Campomizzi to find 50m lire (£35,000) and leave the house with the money. The kidnappers would make contact with her after they had seen her drive off in her car.

Signora Campomizzi had the equivalent of about 51,000 in the house and followed the instructions. No one got in touch with her; later her son telephoned to say he had been to the cinema.

WEV will seek cheaper arms by standardizing

By Our Diplomatic Correspondent

A suggestion by Mr Renaat van Elzlande, the Belgian Foreign Minister, that members of Western European Union should study ways of standardizing armaments supplies, to cut costs was approved yesterday.

Mr Callaghan, the Foreign Secretary, who was in the chair, pointed out that important as it was to try to save costs, defence industries were closely linked to industry and the economy as a whole, which made it difficult to separate civilian military expenditure.



Dr. Mario Soares, the Portuguese Socialist leader, stands in the rain to urge supporters to continue their all-night vigil outside a newspaper office seized by Communists.

Portuguese newspaper closed

From Our Correspondent
Lisbon, May 20

The Lisbon evening newspaper *República* was today closed by official order and its offices sealed. Yesterday it was first seized by Communist printers, who locked the editor in his office with other journalists, then surrounded by hundreds of angry Socialists, with troops standing by to maintain order.

The Socialists maintained their vigil all night. They were joined by Dr Soares, the party leader, and Dr Salgado Zenha, who is also a Socialist member of the Government.

The closure of the newspaper for an indefinite period is seen here as a serious blow to freedom of expression. It was founded by Dr António José de Almeida, the Republican President who held power from 1919 to 1923, and survived during the Salazar and Caetano regimes.

It exploded last night and

the newspaper came into its own after last year's military coup. Its editor, Dr Raul Rego, had for decades been an active fighter for democracy in Portugal and had been arrested under the previous regimes.

The situation of the newspaper, which is owned by private shareholders, became more precarious recently, however, when it came under attack as Communist opposition to the Socialist Party emerged into the open.

About a month ago disputes between the editorial chiefs and the print workers arose over the appointment of two reporters who were said to be Socialists. The printers protested that *República* was becoming a party newspaper. Last weekend the newspaper attacked Communist activities in national television and the dispute bubbled up again.

It exploded last night and

Commander Correia Jesuino, the Minister of Social Communications, left the 16-hour session of the Armed Forces Movement that ended early today. He issued the order to close the newspaper after talks with Communist and Socialist leaders.

Lisbon, May 20.—Journalists on *República* defied the suspension order and distributed on the streets an edition of the newspaper, produced by duplicator.

Crowds of Socialists still milled round the soldiers guarding the newspaper's offices. A front-page leading article in the emergency edition urged all the newspaper's readers to join the demonstration.

The United States Embassy said that two Marine guards, in civilian clothes were beaten by Maoists who accused them of being Central Intelligence Agency agents. They were not injured seriously.—UPI.

Elysée makes Giscard anniversary a big day

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, May 20

Although he is abolishing some commemorations like VE Day, President Giscard d'Estaing is instituting new ones, like the first anniversary of his taking office. Frenchmen are certainly not being allowed to forget that one.

The event was marked today—May 20 being a holiday—by a special meeting of the Cabinet; a declaration on the fight against unemployment on the radio; an inside view of the Elysée and how the President works on television tonight, and a dinner by the President and his wife to all 69 inhabitants of the Alsatian village of Ringeldorf.

Tomorrow there will be a luncheon for 200 members of the French and foreign press and on Thursday a television interview by Jacques Chancel, a kind of French Robin Day, but more respectful of the President.

Yesterday, there was a television retrospective of one year of the reforms which have heralded the birth of the new era. Added to this is a host of articles in the dailies and weeklies to mark the event.

Even well-intentioned observers feel the President is overdoing things a trifle.

But perhaps M. Giscard d'Estaing thinks that if you do not blow your own trumpet, no one will do it for you—or at least not as well. And change has to be hammered into Frenchmen, by spectacular innovations, if they are really to be brought round to accepting it.

This morning's gathering of the government was not really a Cabinet meeting, but an anniversary get-together to hear the President take stock of one year of government action and outline a series of "important projects for France", as one minister hinted. Madame Francoise Giroud, the Minister for Women's Affairs, remarked: "I thought the President conservative, and even a little reactionary. But he is neither, perhaps because he is even more intelligent than I believed."

That was as much as the press could discover, questions being referred to the press luncheon tomorrow.

The ministers left their cars outside the Elysée and crossed the courtyard on foot between two lines of dismounted Republican Guards with drawn swords, to the strains of the revolutionary "Chant du Départ". The President's signature time during the election

Italy paralysed by strikes by state employees

From Our Own Correspondent
Rome, May 20

Strikes throughout the machinery of the state brought administration to a standstill today. Most damaging from the country's point of view was the decision of employees of the Treasury to join the staff of the Ministry of Finance in a strike of indefinite length.

Customs officials began a strike which will last until Thursday. Employees at all levels of state and of semi-state bodies declared a one-day abstention. Most aircraft were grounded until early afternoon by a strike of firemen and tomorrow it is the turn of the

pilots to protest. Once again many flights will have to be cancelled.

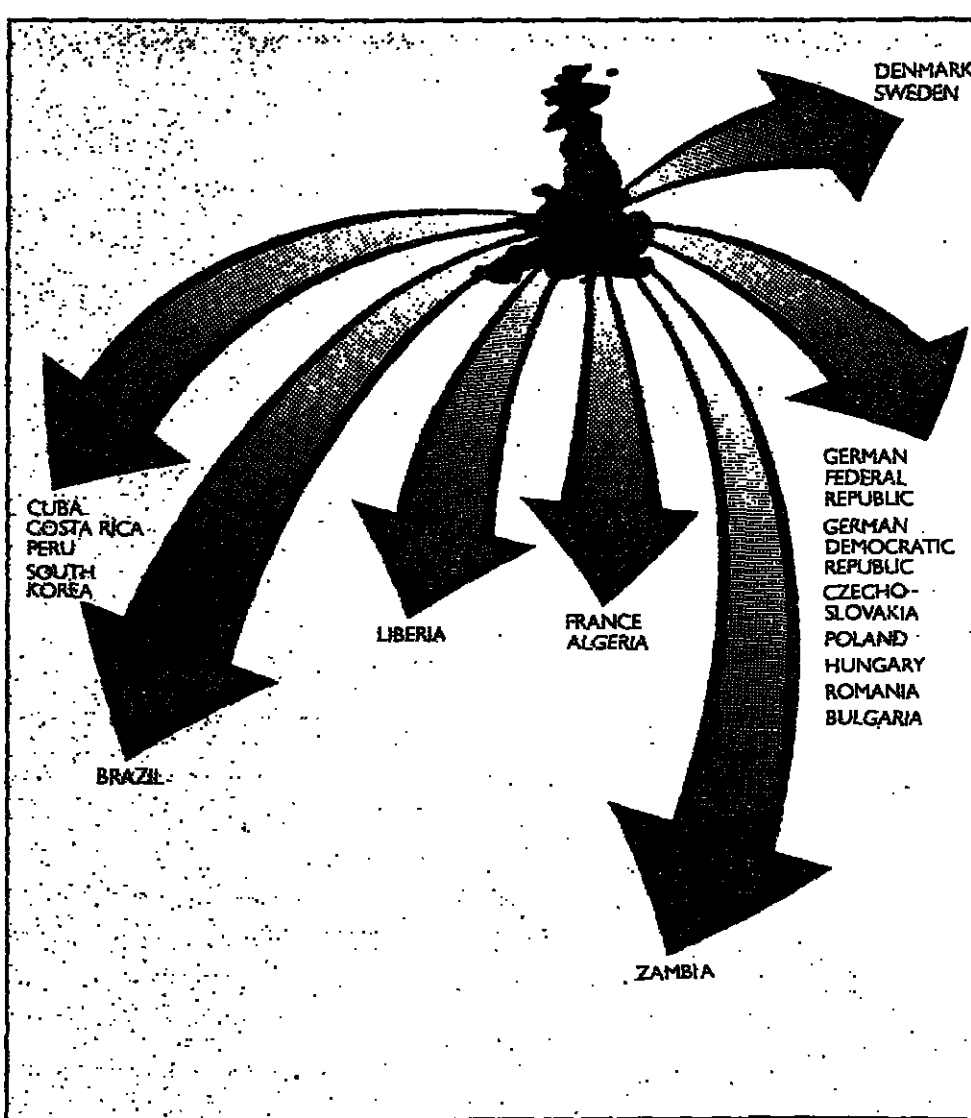
Trains came to a halt tomorrow evening for 24 hours and on Thursday and Friday, all state schools will be closed because of a strike of teachers.

From tomorrow until the end of the week, doctors attached to the various health insurance funds will be on strike and two days will not receive private patients either, except urgent cases.

Some petrol pumps will also be closed by strikes, this time mainly in Lombardy and the Marches, from today until the end of the week.

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sire for independent voice anced by recession fears ose fight in Scotland

ald Faux
referendum arrives at a ed time in Scottish affairs. The newly organ- ical authorities will have in power barely a fortnight before the Scottish referendum. The result seems likely to be not as one might expect from a radical icalist country, a resound-

Labour Party in Scotland. Scottish National Party ally united against con- British membership of C. Between them they ided two thirds of the vote at the October election.

list opposition to has not been impres- coordinated so far in the n. The size of the pro- in vote at the Labour Scottish conference sur- many and marketeers her blunted the impact ish Labour Against the

rate socialists, and who remain undecided other political fences, the anti-Market move- ily because it has be- firmly associated with wing. Only 15 of the 41 Labour MPs voted in the EEC, and the TUC has added its nising weight against ship. Among the lead- ions opposed to the Mr Ross, the Secretary for Scotland.

nationalist "no" is l by the declaration independent Scotland egulate her own terms y. The SNP does not the EEC on the social- nds that it is inimical rking class, or breed- for capitalist. It im- ply has no wish to be into Europe voiceless the coat tails of Eng- he SNP believes that Scotland will be able ove on the terms of

Scottish independence is a fragile egg. Many Scots at would happen if withdrew from Europe ne of economic reces- ically Scotland has ricularly hard hit y, and the relative of the EEC could well rable.

rs in Scotland have rounds for taking this

view. Although only 23 per cent of Scottish manufactured exports, excluding whisky, go to Europe, the many American-controlled companies which have set up branches in Scotland have done so because the country provides an excellent springboard into Europe. Withdrawal might jeopardize many jobs in such companies, it is feared.

Issues that could settle Scottish opinion about the EEC are the future of the Scottish steel industry, which is threatened with the loss of 4,000 jobs; fishing, when North Sea stocks are being put in jeopardy by zealous foreign boats; and agriculture. The pro-EEC campaign is polarizing around reassurances that membership will neither interfere with British sovereignty to any vital degree nor threaten the ownership of British offshore oilfields. (The SNP speaks darkly of a sinister EEC energy levy, which it claims is waiting in the wings until after the referendum.) The pace and scale of devolution within Britain need not be affected, the argument runs, and membership will not, of itself, inflate food prices.

It has taken some time for the arguments to gather strength in Scotland, and one senses apathy about an issue that will not be decided by voting north of the border. The latest opinion poll gives the pro-market a one-point lead, and audiences at Scottish rallies are being treated to the experience of Mr Edward Taylor, a vice-chairman of the Scottish Conservative Party, supporting the anti-Market argument with Mr Michael McCahey, Communist president of the Scottish Mineworkers' Union; and Lord Campbell of Croy sharing a pro-Market platform with Mr Richard Douglas, vice-chairman of the Scotland in Europe Committee, a former Labour MP and political victim of the nationalists.

No dramatic evidence has been produced either way far about the advantages or disadvantages of membership. The campaigners will clearly have to work hard to persuade a substantial majority in Scotland to decide either that the Community is a trading zone from which Britain cannot afford to exclude herself or that, as the nationalists believe, the EEC needs Scotland more than Scotland needs the EEC.

Government accused of ng to fix result

Government was yesterday of trying to the result of the m. Threats used by s of EEC membership classed as corruption, s Towler, chairman of shire group of the British Business for Markets Organisation, criticized employers pro-EEC propaganda packets and said the some chambers of were encouraging rms "to coerce their via votes in their elerate 'Yes' to their jobs."

ler told a Ger Britain rence in Manchester:

The rules that govern general elections in this country stipulate that the offer or promise to a person with the intention of influencing the way in which he votes is bribery. Similarly, trying to get votes by threatening workers with harm or damage arising from the scaling down of industrial plants or their transfer elsewhere could well attract a charge of corruption. True, the referendum is not a general election and the Government seems so intent on trying to fix the result that it overlooks or even encourages such practices. Yet the fact that the pro-market is adopting such tactics makes one ask: "Are the pro-market voters to be used as their can they feel necessary to sink to such depths?"

Denial of Basque report on arrests

From Harry Debelius Madrid, May 20.—The Spanish Government said today that reports of large-scale arrests in the two Basque provinces affected by an emergency decree are false. Countering printed allegations that more than 2,000 people had been picked up by the police for political reasons in the provinces of Vizcaya and Guipuzcoa since a state of emergency was decreed there on April 25, government spokesman said in Madrid: "Altogether, less than 200 have been arrested since the start of the state of exception." He added: "Regarding the alleged report of Basque lawyers published by *The Times*, these are the facts: "As of May 18, there were only 91 persons detained in connexion with the state of exception in the province of Vizcaya. These included 21 in Civil Guard stations, 43 at the main police headquarters, and 27 in prison at the disposition of governmental authorities. "In the province of Guipuzcoa, also as of May 18, only 61 persons were detained, including all detentions in connexion with the state of exception. Of these, 19 were in the custody of the Civil Guard and police, and 42 were in prison." The spokesman also denied that the Bilbao building or the gardens at the civil governor's offices in San Sebastian had been used as temporary detention centres, as alleged in the lawyers' report which had been smuggled out of the Basque country. "At no time was the building used as a detention centre," he said. "As for the civil governor's offices in San Sebastian, they have no such use, thus it is physically impossible that people could have been held there by police armed with machine guns. Across the street in front of the civil governor's offices there is a public garden, but it is a place where children play and not a place for detainees." A source close to the Government added further information. He said that the people of the Basque country had undergone "some discomfort" as a result of police round-ups to check personnel identification documents. "About 30 per cent of those whose identification was checked had no national identity card in their possession, or had one which was out of date or otherwise invalid." He added: "Those without proper papers were taken to police stations until the matter could be clarified, but not one of them had to spend the night there." The source argued that such people should not be considered as having been arrested. "They were not placed under arrest, and they were not taken to police stations for political reasons, but simply for lack of proper identification."

The source pointed out that since the state of emergency had come into force, the Government had opened three additional offices in Bilbao to issue the obligatory identity cards. The Democratic Junta, a loose illegal association of the Spanish left, including the pro-Moscow Spanish Communist Party, but not the main Spanish Socialist Party, appealed to Mr. Wells Stables, the United States Ambassador in Madrid, today to advise President Ford to call off his planned visit to Spain. This note said that the visit at the end of this month would coincide with the moment of greatest political repression in years: deaths and tortures of citizens for political motive, massive arrests, the closing of universities, the withdrawal of passports, the seizure and suspension of newspapers and magazines, the prohibitions of lectures and cultural activities, the banning of pastoral initiatives of the Church, the jailing of priests, and the privation of political and labour freedoms.

Leading article, page 15

OVERSEAS

Underground Prague newsletter tells of new Dubcek job

Prague, May 20.—An underground newsletter giving details of official actions against Czechoslovak dissidents was circulated today to foreign correspondents here. It announced the recent arrest of a dissident, gave particulars of several house searches and police interrogations, and reported that Mr. Alexander Dubcek, the former Communist Party leader, had been transferred from his job as a forestry organization buyer. He is now a member of the tree-planting section. The newsletter, called *Narodni Noviny* (national news), was similar to the *Journal of Current Events* circulated clandestinely in the Soviet Union. It was said to be published by the Czech nation at its own expense. Circulation only among trustworthy people. Any carelessness could be severely punished. The newsletter named the arrested dissident as Mr. Milan Daniel, aged 49, who was imprisoned from 1970 to 1973 for subversion. He was rearrested on April 29 and was now imprisoned in Hradec Kralove, also on a charge of subversion. The newsletter said that among the documents seized by the police in recent house searches were the manuscript of a long philosophical work by Mr. Karel Kosik, the manu-

script of Mr. Ludvik Vaculik's latest novel called *The Hoof*, and about 250 pages of political writing by Mr. Zdenek Mylnar, a former secretary of the Communist Party's Central Committee. It described Mr. Mylnar's manuscript as "an analysis of theoretical and practical political problems during the political situation in 1968". It was in 1968 that the Soviet-led Warsaw Pact troops invaded Czechoslovakia to overthrow the reformist regime of Mr. Dubcek. It is believed that Mr. Mylnar's manuscript could be the document which Czech dissidents are known to be planning to submit to the European communist parties' conference later this year. This document is said to be circulating both here and abroad. In its report on Mr. Dubcek, the newsletter described a Communist Party meeting at the Slovak state forestry organization where he works. It was held to assess the situation after a letter by Mr. Dubcek criticizing several party leaders had been published in the West. It said Mr. Dubcek offered to read the letter so that those present could judge its contents for themselves. However, the offer was refused and the next day Mr. Dubcek was given a new job, the newsletter added. —Reuters.

Israel announces stern anti-terrorist measures

From Our Own Correspondent Jerusalem, May 20.—The Israeli Defence Minister said today that "stern measures" would be taken against continued acts of terrorism in the West Bank at the same time he confirmed that greater local autonomy was to be given to the inhabitants. Further terrorist incidents and arrests on Sunday have been reported from several towns. In the Ramallah district six Arabs have been detained on suspicion of involvement in terrorist acts

including arson at a labour exchange and attacks on two buses. Some have exploded in their possession, it was said. In the Old City of Jerusalem, near Damascus Gate, the main point of entry for Muslims, an Israeli youth was stabbed today, but not seriously hurt. The newspaper *Ma'ariv* disclosed that about 2,400 young Arabs are held in Israeli prisons. Of these 707 are under arrest, 1,700 have been sentenced and 60 are in administrative detention.

NZ move over rape ruling

Wellington, May 20.—A New Zealand MP wants to change the law relating to rape. Mr. Keith Allan proposes to introduce a Bill to the effect that belief of consent would not be a defence to rape, so preventing the Lords ruling from becoming a precedent here. —Reuters.

130 dead in Burma hurricane

Rangoon, May 20.—A hurricane which struck Burma's north and north-east regions two weeks ago killed 130 people and destroyed several thousand tons of rice. The hurricane, with 80 to 90 mph winds, caused havoc in Bassein and 20 other outlying towns.

Palestinians face clash of interests

By Paul Martin Beirut, May 20.—As the Palestine Liberation Organization takes its halting steps towards a political solution there is no quarter where it comes under greater scrutiny than in the 17 refugee camps in Lebanon. Like the camp dwellers in the West Bank, Gaza, Jordan and Syria, these are the "1948 refugees". For them, the Palestine state means a return to what has been the state of Israel for more than 25 years. Ask any child where it comes from and the answer is "Haifa, Acre, Alma, Farra", or a string of other towns and villages in what was Palestine. All can reel off detailed descriptions of places they have never seen. These are the vociferous minority of the Palestinian movement. They form the PLO's last big military stronghold, their youth and lending it a popular base for its political struggle. Only over these 17 urban districts, distinguished by their rusty tin roofs and teeming alleys and their open sewage, does the Palestine flag

flutter; and this "statehood" in a country that is not theirs, breeds rather than dampens ambitions. Here lies the dangerous conflict of interests which besets the PLO's leadership and its followers, but the entire Palestinian movement. Palestinians in the West Bank and Gaza applaud the PLO's steps towards accepting the truncated Palestine state, as do all the refugees in Jordan. For them it is an end to a foreign occupation and the first chance for self-determination under their own flag since the creation of Israel. For the camp dwellers in Lebanon it is a different picture. Few of them seem to have a clear idea of what Geneva and the Palestine state means; but all agree on one thing: whatever happens, the Palestinian leadership must lend its signature to a document which recognizes the legality of the state of Israel. The question which the refugees ask is: What do we get out of a Palestine state which cannot support us? For how long have illusions about moving to the West Bank or Gaza should an independent state be created as part of a settlement.

As the Palestinians who live in the camps in Lebanon enjoy freedom of expression, they often claim to be the true expression of Palestinian will. A young doctor in one of the camps said: "After all, from 1948 onwards refugees in Gaza, the West Bank, elsewhere, have lived on hopes of return. This was interrupted by the 1967 war. The Gazans and West Bankers are fed up with occupation. "Of course they want a state; but which one of them can give up hopes of returning to the land from which they were originally evicted? "Apart from the declared aim of a 'democratic state for Muslims, Christians and Jews in Palestine', the PLO under Mr. Arafat has so far refrained from explaining how this can be reconciled with the short-term aim of a West Bank-Gaza state. This is what puzzles the refugees in the Diaspora, particularly as the rejectionists have already pointed out that it would be folly to believe it was possible to achieve such a state without recognition and peace with Israel.

Mr Hattersley visits Greece for talks

From Our Correspondent Athens, May 20.—Mr. Roy Hattersley, Minister of State, Foreign Office, arrived in Athens today for talks with the Greek Government which he said, would be wide-ranging and aimed at strengthening mutual ties. He is the first British minister to visit Greece since the fall of the dictatorship. He said at Athens airport: "The British people shared your happiness at the return of democracy to Greece and my Government are determined to use the new opportunity it gives us to strengthen our relations with your country." In reply to a reporter's question, he rejected any suggestion that he had brought a proposal for the solution of the Cyprus problem. His visit was for "general bilateral talks rather than direct and positive negotiations." In his talks with Mr. Botsios, the Foreign Minister, and other officials, he expected to discuss both Cyprus and Greece's role in the European Community. Britain and Greece shared the same goal for Cyprus, "to ensure that a solution is found that will bring peace and justice to the people of that tragic island." Mr. Botsios returned to Athens today from Rome where he had talks with Mr. Caglayanli, his Turkish counterpart. Mr. Hattersley is stopping in Athens en route to the ministerial council meeting of the Central Treaty Organization in Ankara on Thursday and Friday.

Iran and Iraq in accord

Algiers, May 20.—Iran and Iraq announced today that the main work on defining their common frontier had been completed, and a final treaty to settle their long-standing dispute would be signed in Baghdad. Mr. Abbas Ali Khalabary, the Iranian Foreign Minister, said: "Our heads of state will certainly approve the agreement." He was speaking after a meeting in Algiers of the tripartite commission grouping the two countries and Algeria.

British TV carries off Emmy awards

From Our Own Correspondent New York, May 20.—Laurence Olivier and Katharine Hepburn both won Emmy awards in Hollywood last night for their television film *Love Among the Ruins*, which was made in Britain. Altogether, the film won six awards, including one for George Cukor, the director, and one for James Costigan, the writer. It was a successful evening for British television. *Upstairs, Downstairs*, the series on life in Edwardian Britain, won an award for the second year running as the best dramatic series. Jean Marsh, who plays Rose, won the award for the best actress in a drama series. She said exuberantly: "I am overwhelmed, but not speechless. It is absolutely smashing for you to give me, a foreigner, an award. It's generous, uncharismatic and typically American."

Neither Lord Olivier nor Miss Hepburn was in Hollywood for the ceremony; but many of the other winners were, and the occasion was watched by millions across the United States, with 18 hostesses doing the honours this year. Two of the main winners were *QB VII*, a film of the book, which won six awards, including two for Anthony Quayle and Juliet Mills, and *The Mary Tyler Moore Show*. Other winners last night went to shows which have been taken off. Tony Randall, who won an Emmy for one of these, commented: "I sure am glad I won. Now if only I had a job..."

All talk now centres on military self-sufficiency with the belief that the United States Congress might block any attempts to involve the 38,000 American troops, still based in South Korea, in another Asian conflict. Plans have already been mooted to modernize the South Korean Army and the \$720m Washington ultimatum to Pyongyang (amounting to 27 per cent of the entire budget) is expected to increase drastically. The South Koreans certainly would not want to see the United States in the unlikely event of the Americans finally turning their back on Asia.

After crossing the demilitarized zone a MIG fighter aircraft would take only three minutes to reach Seoul. Intelligence reports indicate that surface-to-surface missiles (Frogs) are entrenched at sites within range of the city. Apart from the fact that the 38,000 American troops are stationed in rear positions behind the demilitarized zone provide South Korea with a powerful deterrent, the United States military presence in the peninsula is vital to Seoul for many other strategic reasons. It is estimated that the North Koreans maintain 23 infantry divisions, one armoured division and 160,000 paramilitary reserve troops, including 35,000 special airborne troops. Intelligence reports say that they are equipped with 800 to 1,000 T-54 and T-55 Soviet tanks, surface-to-air missiles (Sams), shoulder-fired Sam 7 heat seeking missiles, and an estimated 6,000 artillery pieces including 122mm howitzers, 130mm guns with a range of 17 miles, 152mm gun howitzers, 160mm mortars and 140mm and 200mm rocket launchers. The strength of a division on both sides is estimated to be 12,000 men. The South Korean ground



Mr Chou En-lai, the Chinese Prime Minister, greets Princess Ashraf Pahlavi, sister of the Shah of Iran, at a hospital in Peking.

Police and gang fight gunbattle in Saigon

Saigon, May 20.—A gang fought a gunbattle with "liberation police" in the centre of Saigon today, one incident in the early hours of this morning, neighbours said. Dozens of troops rushed to the scene and long bursts of automatic weapons fire were heard. A Western reporter who managed to reach the scene, braving the overnight curfew, was ordered home by a senior police officer. The officer said some of the gang had been posing as local members of the National Liberation Front and had been able to carry weapons without hindrance. He added that two of the group were arrested, but 10 more escaped over rooftops in the darkness. The shooting illustrated the problem of lawlessness which the new communist authorities face after three weeks in control of South Vietnam. The lawbreakers are believed to be totally apolitical and the authorities refer to them as "cowboys". Many are said to be jobless former soldiers of the old South Vietnamese Army who are roaming the country in large numbers. Others are thought to be hardened criminals set free by communist-led forces who threw open the doors of all the jails when they took Saigon.

Last town entered by Pathet Lao

Savannakhet, Laos, May 20.—The communist Pathet Lao made a triumphal entry into this central Laotian town today in a flower-bedecked convoy of Soviet tanks and lorries. Twelve Americans held here, under limited house arrest by students, were safe and in good state. Savannakhet, a town of about 30,000 on the Mekong river, was the last remaining big centre to stay on the loyalist side. The Pathet Lao expanded their control across the country in the past few weeks. The Pathet Lao arrived late in the afternoon in two PT76 tanks and about 12 lorries. They were met by crowds and guarded, while the students who seized the town last week accompanied them in vehicles and snaked ahead in a Laotian folk dance. Pretty girls giggled on the sidewalks. In Vietnamese earlier today, United States officials said the Agency for International Development officials and their wives were safe and have been allowed to move about. The officials added that a regular courier flight from Hanoi landed at Savannakhet, which is 180 miles to the south-east, and delivered mail, food and other supplies to the Americans.—UPI.

Mr Vorster attacks 'Times' report

From Michael Knipe Cape Town, May 20.—Mr. Vorster, the South African Prime Minister, said today that obvious inaccuracies abounded in a report in *The Times* quoting diplomatic exchanges said to have taken place between Mr. Stephen Tola, Liberia's late Finance Minister, and South Africa's United Nations representative, Mr. "Pik" Botha. Mr. Vorster declined to specify the inaccuracies but said *The Times* report was unethical and calculated to disrupt the southern African détente operation.

His statement said: "To us it is strange and unethical that so-called confidential information said to have been given by the deceased Minister of Finance of Liberia to a newspaperman, should be published after his death when he could not react and in such a way that can only be calculated to sow suspicion and distrust between South Africa, Rhodesia and other countries which are engaged in a serious effort to find a peaceful solution for delicate problems. "We regard it as beneath our dignity to make any comment or to point out the obvious inaccuracies which abound in the report."

The Times report was reprinted here today but the "inaccuracies" which Mr. Vorster claims are far less obvious to most observers than he suggests. However, the report certainly contains numerous aspects which will

embarrass the South African Government. There will be irritation particularly at the indication that the Government is responding to outside pressure in introducing liberal reforms such as decision to open the Masian opera house to all races and the concession to South Africans on ownership of land. Mr. Vorster always been at pains to outsiders and reassure right wing that his Government is not susceptible to pressures. There is little doubt that Vorster would be delighted to attend a meeting with the presidents of Kenya, Nigeria, Zaire, but he will not re the report as being more likely by the knowledge that President Nyerere is acting as his intermediary, as the report makes clear. A further embarrassment will spring from the fact that South Africa has attempted to buy detente black Africa by means of material assistance even more so, that this was has been firmly rejected. The suggestion that Africa was discussing a with a league and Saudi Arabia the report was based on a likely but not impossible Nigerian crude oil is not able for South African poses but Saudi Arabian has been at a time when Mr. Vorster's Government had poised for a further diplomatic advance in its détente exercise.

Supervisory role of UN in S W Africa is rejected

From Our Own Correspondent Cape Town, May 20.—In a keenly awaited speech in Windhoek tonight, Mr. Vorster rejected United Nations supervision of South-West Africa's future, but said he would be prepared to discuss the territory with the United Nations or a committee from the Organizations of African Unity.

There were hopes that Mr. Vorster might use his speech to respond to the deadline of the end of May set by the Security Council for South Africa to indicate its intentions regarding the mandated territory's eventual independence. However, Mr. Vorster said nothing that is likely to placate the Afro-Asian bloc or make it easier for Britain, the United States or France to accept the republic's policy on the issue. Addressing the congress of the Afrikaanse Handelsinstituut, an association of Afrikaans industrialists, Mr. Vorster warned businessmen against artificially creating a crisis of confidence in the future of South-West Africa, and assured them that South Africa would not allow chaos and misery to arise there.

He also used the national concern over the as a carrot for a wider di on South Africa's terms. Africa, he said, was pr to co-ordinate negotiations the United Nations Sec General or his personal representative, and African interested in visiting the tory were also welcome so. Mr. Vorster attempt show that South Africa's towards the territory in accordance with most of the United Nations' view. His Government, respected the separate national status of South Africa. "We do not elict of the territory," he said. Dealing with the Nations insistence the territory should not be mented in terms of ap and that it should beco independent state. Mr said it was for all the nations of the terri cious, the future options are open to the said emphatically, in perhaps the nearest c come to an outright coo to United Nations dema

British-owned rubber estate sold to Ceylon

Colombo, May 20.—The Ceylon Government has bought a British-owned 2,511-acre rubber estate at Agalawatta, 60 miles west-east of here, the Ministry of Plantation Industries said today. The estate, believed to be one of the largest in Ceylon, was offered to the Government by its owners, the London-based Dalmeida (Ceylon) Rubber Estates Ltd, the spokesman said. The estate will be managed by the State Plantations Corporation.—Reuters.

'Hongkong fl reemerges with new nar

Hongkong, May 20.—outbreak of so-called "kung flu", which infect world a decade ago, is here. Hongkong doctors say the same form of influenza has been detected at h in the colony, with the cal pneumonia symptoms; rising temperature, a dry cough, and a sore throat. It is now beyond the officialy rechristened "Asian flu". Previously, was widespread anger colony at the adoption term "Hongkong flu

US warning to N Korea allays Seoul fears

From Peter Hazelhurst Seoul, May 20.—Reports that Dr Schlesinger, the American Secretary for Defence, has warned the communist powers that the United States will intervene militarily if North Korea invades the South, were greeted with mixed feelings of relief and scepticism in Seoul today. Washington's ultimatum to Pyongyang was played down prominently on the front pages of national newspapers.

Government officials as well as the public believed that the warning would act as a stop-gap measure to thwart any immediate attempt to invade Seoul. But most South Koreans interviewed by *The Times* in Seoul today were convinced that South Korea could no longer depend on the American military umbrella in the future. In the event there is no evidence of an unusual build-up of military activity or indications that the North is preparing for an assault along the demilitarized zone, north of Seoul.

South Korean officers at Gwangju, a military outpost north of the Imjin River and South of the zone, said today that there was no recent evidence to suggest that the North was preparing for a frontal attack on any section of the 155-mile front. The two armies have been poised against each other along the demilitarized zone for more than two decades. They are separated by a two and half mile-wide "no man's land" which runs from the eastern to the western coast above the 38th parallel about 30 miles north of Seoul. Immediate fears that communist successes in Indo-China might prompt a new offensive by North Korea are beginning to subside in Seoul, but the lessons of Vietnam have not been lost on the 33 million South Koreans.

forces are estimated to comprise 23 infantry divisions, two armoured brigades and 10 divisions of temporary reserve troops. The 38,000 American troops thus tip the balance of military power in the peninsula.

The South Koreans maintain a naval force of 130 ships manned by 20,000 men compared to the communist naval force of 62 ships and 17,000 men. But it is in the air, where the communists are superior, that the real significance of an American military presence is felt.

The South Korean Air Force, consisting of 25,000 men, can only put an estimated 210 fighter-bombers in the air, compared to the communists' 600 fighter-bombers which are manned and maintained by about 40,000 men at bases north of the demilitarized zone. "If the North attacked now I think that they would get a bloody nose. But the South could only meet the threat with the support of air strikes from American carriers. Without it would be a different story", according to a Western military expert. The American defeat in Vietnam might prompt an attack from the North were based on two facts. First, President Kim Il Sung, of North Korea, went to Peking last month after the collapse of Cambodia, leaving the communists with the impression that Peking was attempting to persuade China to support an uprising on the Korean peninsula. Secondly, South Korean troops have discovered that the communists constructed 13 tunnel under the no-man's land. Western military analysts who examined the tunnels claim that they were constructed near tactical military defensive

position in the South could have been used to create communist positions behind South forward lines on the tized zone. It is estimated that it would have been played in November. It had not been pinpoint aerial photography and recently destroyed or southern side of the cation line.

According to Mr. Take, the chairman of the est-Korean Cultural tion, who met the Korean leader in Pyon recently, Marshal Kim I was reported as saying i North had no intention vading the South b troops were assisting i during the crucial rice ing season.

In any event the deba Vietnam has come as a t shock to the South Korea Herald has thus su feelings in a leading a It is now beyond the that Kim Il Sung, inspi prompted by the Indo developments may tempted to undertake a Vietnam-like guerrilla fare against the Whether the Pyon regime tries to embark o a military venture soon later, the Korean pen faces the possibility of b ing the next area of con Asia." Tokyo, May 20.—Korea today accused United States of threaten use nuclear weapons to d South Korea, and denied a invasion of the South homeland. The Government said statement that the I States was trying to prov confrontation mentality South Korea in a last effort to maintain the c of "no man's land" and mi base.—UPI.

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imo Rico and Pyers add weight French challenge for Derby

hail Phillips Correspondent

But surely the Derby is beginning to take shape. Having had time in which to digest Primo Rico's race on Monday at Epsom, where he won the Prix de la Forêt, and the fact that he will be trained for the Derby by the French, it is not surprising that the French challenge for the Derby is beginning to take shape. Having had time in which to digest Primo Rico's race on Monday at Epsom, where he won the Prix de la Forêt, and the fact that he will be trained for the Derby by the French, it is not surprising that the French challenge for the Derby is beginning to take shape.

Parsifal may resist Fiery Copper

By Michael Seely

There is always a good crowd at the attractive course of Parsifal, as it is, close to the great industrial cities of the West Riding. For their midweek fixture this afternoon, however, there is only a moderate crowd for decision. The jockey to follow this afternoon seems to be Willie Carson, who has outstanding chances of taking the last race on Parsifal and Zaskia.

three-year-old turned in a promising effort at the Guineas, meeting when he finished fourth in his stable companion, Born Gambler. Previously, Zaskia, having the first of his career, was placed third behind Master Petard in the Wood Ditton Stakes. His form reads superior to that of his rivals to date, though I am warned to expect a good showing from the unraced Tilly, Taxi Rank, from James Bethell's stable. Other likely winners at Ripon are Palmvinder in the St. Clare Plate and Willie Martin in the Skelkate Handicap.

been hiding his time, and when shaken up Red Regent immediately lengthened his stride to win comfortably. Walwyn trains the winner for Sir George Clague. Announcing Red Regent as a runner at Epsom, the Lambourn trainer said: "I don't want to make a fool of the horse, but I don't see why he shouldn't run. Red Regent doesn't mind the firm ground, and only had a good work out today as I've been very busy with him since Chester." Although Red Regent can have little chance against the likes of Green Dancer and Grumpy in the Derby, he might well be on and reach a place.

Bachelors' Acre kept for sport and pastimes

New Windsor Corporation v Mellor

Before Lord Denning, Master of the Rolls, Lord Justice Browne and Mr Justice Brightman.

Bachelors' Acre, a piece of land in the middle of New Windsor whose name it was said went back at least to the year 900 AD, is subject to a customary right in the inhabitants to indulge in lawful sports and pastimes on the land.

From time immemorial Bachelors' Acre, which was not preserved or unsundered, and was over two acres, had belonged to the mayor, bailiffs and burgesses of the borough. There was proof positive that in medieval times it was the meadow where young men practised with their bows and arrows. A pair of butts was set up. They shot at the targets. The word "bachelor" was used to describe "a young knight who followed the banner of another; a novice in arms". (Shorter Oxford Dictionary)

on programme

LEALWOOD STAKES (3-y-o: Handicap: £887; 14m)

221 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 222 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 223 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 224 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 225 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0.

ESTGATE STAKES (2-y-o: £414; 5f)

226 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 227 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 228 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 229 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 230 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0.

RKATE STAKES (Handicap: 3-y-o: £488; 1m 1f)

231 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 232 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 233 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 234 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 235 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0.

MARYGATE PLATE (2-y-o: £630; 5f)

236 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 237 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 238 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 239 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 240 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0.

ELLGATE STAKES (Handicap: £429; 6f)

241 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 242 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 243 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 244 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 245 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0.

ONEBIDGE PLATE (£468; 1m)

246 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 247 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 248 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 249 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0. 250 Flory Copper (4) (A. Bray), R. Rotherham, 9-0.

wood results

1st 2nd 3rd 4th 5th 6th 7th 8th 9th 10th 11th 12th 13th 14th 15th 16th 17th 18th 19th 20th 21st 22nd 23rd 24th 25th 26th 27th 28th 29th 30th 31st 32nd 33rd 34th 35th 36th 37th 38th 39th 40th 41st 42nd 43rd 44th 45th 46th 47th 48th 49th 50th 51st 52nd 53rd 54th 55th 56th 57th 58th 59th 60th 61st 62nd 63rd 64th 65th 66th 67th 68th 69th 70th 71st 72nd 73rd 74th 75th 76th 77th 78th 79th 80th 81st 82nd 83rd 84th 85th 86th 87th 88th 89th 90th 91st 92nd 93rd 94th 95th 96th 97th 98th 99th 100th 101st 102nd 103rd 104th 105th 106th 107th 108th 109th 110th 111th 112th 113th 114th 115th 116th 117th 118th 119th 120th 121st 122nd 123rd 124th 125th 126th 127th 128th 129th 130th 131st 132nd 133rd 134th 135th 136th 137th 138th 139th 140th 141st 142nd 143rd 144th 145th 146th 147th 148th 149th 150th 151st 152nd 153rd 154th 155th 156th 157th 158th 159th 160th 161st 162nd 163rd 164th 165th 166th 167th 168th 169th 170th 171st 172nd 173rd 174th 175th 176th 177th 178th 179th 180th 181st 182nd 183rd 184th 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2 litre Peugeot 504. £2613.

We build our car to a standard no volume production manufacturer in the world can equal.

We press all our own body parts and make the major mechanical components ourselves. It's the only way to be 100% certain they'll match up to our high standards.

We run each engine on a test bed before clearing it for installation. And we test every gearbox in every gear before giving it the OK. (Time and care at this stage save time and trouble for you later.)

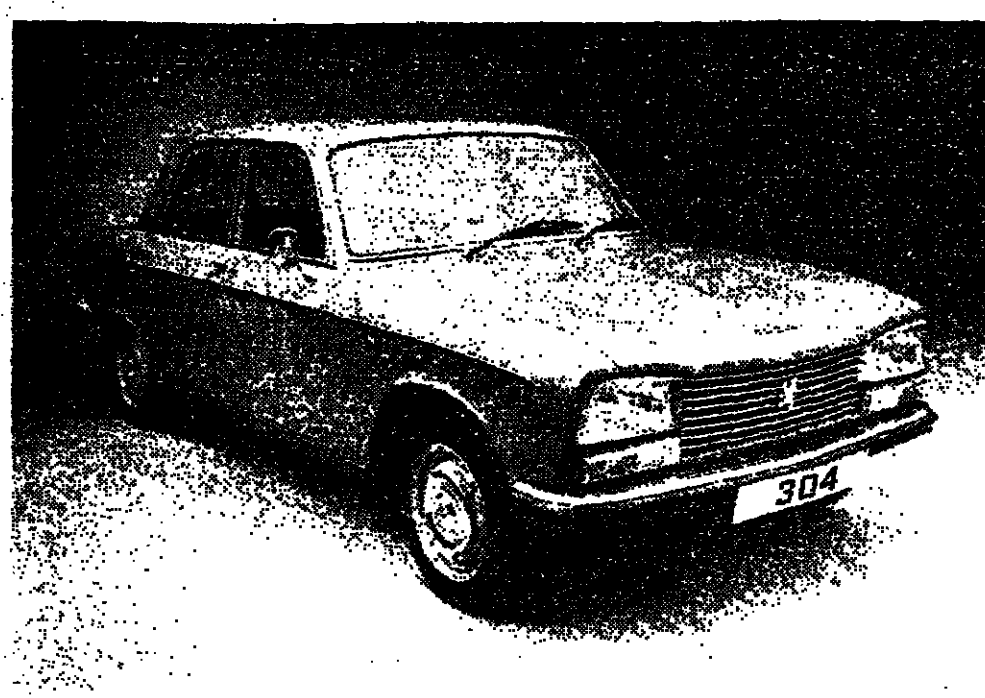
Every car body we make is totally immersed for rust protection by an electrophoretic process instead of merely being partly 'dipped'.

One in seven of our work force is a quality control inspector. (Other manufacturers consider one in ten to be a high figure.)

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We rectify any fault that shows up in the track test, however minor. Then we check and test each car again.

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I'd like to know more about the £1881 car that's built like a £2613 car. Please also send brochures on: 104 saloon, 204 saloon and estate, 304 estate, 504 saloon and diesel saloon, 504 estate. (delete those you don't require)

Name

Address

Send to: Tony Lockwood, Peugeot Automobiles (UK) Ltd, Peugeot House, Western Avenue, London W3 0RS. Tel: 01-993 2331.

Peugeot 304 saloon, 1288 cc 5-seater. Standard equipment: front disc brakes, all-round independent suspension, rack and pinion steering, reclining seats, seatbelts, heated rear window, quick adjustment headlights, child safety locks, anti-theft lock, day/night mirror. Optional extras: sunshine roof, metallic paint. 304 S: As 304 but 80 BHP, metallic paint, head restraints and sunroof as standard, £2069. 304 estate: 25-53 cubic feet load capacity, £2003. Prices correct at time of going to press.

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SAFARI RALLY

The scent of victory on all channels

sold were £18 0/6s. The money was paid, amid the deafening roar of his trousers descending around his ankles. We are authorized by the Home Office, on whose behalf the licence was issued for £18 a licence valid for four months more than the usual period of months, to inform you that the licence expires on the expiry date of your old licence you would be licenced for one year at £18 and a further four months at the £18 rate.

That, it is clear, entirely concedes one of the main arguments of your case. You are entitled to a licence before March 31, and have had your application and money returned, you should apply again, referring to the application sent on May 2 from the National TV Licence Records Office and demanding to be treated with regard to warning.

(One more point. You do not just send a cheque

No error had been made, nor was the date of Mr X's death relevant. There had been an unambiguous claim that no return was possible, and the "authority" to make a refund "whatever the circumstances". As soon as the author of an approach to Members of Parliament was out that the claim was totally abandoned, and a refund offered, I have to add that when the solicitor replied, accepting the refund, he was sure that the original printed letter had been "most misleading" and ought to be withdrawn, they received the money but no further reply. I am sure that the "authority" looked into the state of affairs at the TV Licence Records Office.

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Eric Moonman



controversy amongst blacks as to whether having the word "coloured" combined with the black community at all. In my opinion, the spin-off is substantial, if only in providing a common identity to one section of the white population.

But as both beneficiaries have found, making discrimination illegal is not the same thing as providing the black community with schools which will actually end racial tensions. It is the extension of rights to most people increases competition for the existing facilities. The result is an increase in tensions and prejudice. This is a lesson which the United States rapidly learning. It is one we in Britain, with her high unemployment, must carefully when the Commons select committees on Race Relations reports in July.

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and small scale in substance, authentic and not contrived. The highly organized EEC exporters? Further more, would France and Italy welcome a competitor on the scene, also selling food and wine to the EEC? The recent spectacle of the "wine war" between France and Italy makes this look somewhat unlikely.

Turning to Spain's bilateral relations with the other EEC countries, much will obviously depend on the complexion of whatever government follows Franco. With Britain, for example, the question of Gibraltar is highly sensitive, and in Spain's favour. If a Labour Government, here wished to assist a nascent social democratic government in Madrid to find its feet.

As for success in the past over Gibraltar has been compounded of traditional conservatism, a lack of imagination, to imagine Miraghan doing the reverse if Gibraltar were to be taken over between Britain and Spain.

It should not be that Spain, as Franco's tremulous grip, has incited a number of "widespread" crises as prime in process, but it is or number of "infr factors which have worked towards Spain's loss of EEC investment burden took off to econo (having joined OECD 1960s, Spain's comm to the EEC. It is needed to safeguard to it in any fu crisis, has given h dional and significant link with

The end of Franco is, if anything, more likely to intensify rather than allay United States anxieties about the Iberian peninsula, and on that extent it would improve the bargaining position of the Spaniards

The man who taught the RAF the way to win

"Peter" Portal whose Huguenot ancestors crossed the Channel in 1695 belonged to that cavalier generation who moved from public school and dream-

other branches of the armed forces and with Commonwealth troops—and in techniques of accurate bombing by day and night. Most important though, it

He was closely identified with the emphasis on offensive bombing as the main object of which in my view was to weaken Germany so much that we could successfully invade Europe. After that had been achieved I intended to devote the whole of our air power to the job of helping the armies forward. I am sure it was right to put the preponderance of our efforts into these tasks. But he was convinced that the allies would win the war after the Battle of Britain. By that victory, he said later, Britain had denied the Germans the air

Porral was in many ways a solitary man, and something of an enigmatic one, motivated by a great dedication to his duty as he saw it. Some colleagues believe he never quite got over the death of a son, Richard, who was born in 1921 but sadly did not survive. On the other hand his lifelong interests—fishing, motor-falconry, fly-fishing, and Oxford-cycling and flying—suggest a man who was content with his own company, marshalling his wits and skills in the presence of a hostile environment.

Spain has been anxious to integrate Spain into the western defence system, and has periodically (and unsuccessfully) lobbied for her admission into Nato. The potential crumbling of Nato's position in the Mediterranean, over troubles within Greece and Turkey, threatening down of Britain's command in the Far East, and the certainty surrounding Italy's future, may all combine to raise the value of Spain to Nato and America.

The end of Franco is, if anything, more likely to intensify rather than delay United States efforts to bring Spain into the peninsula, and on that extreme it would improve the bargaining position of the Spaniards.

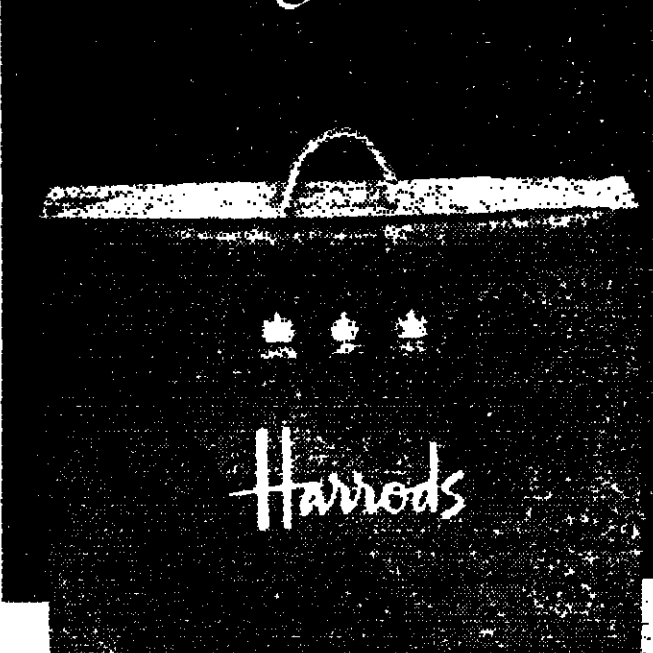
But Spain too changed society: growth has incited material values which quietly doze much and erode harsh Spanish machismo, fanatical uncolored hatreds of the past should guard against nationalism that Spaniards to one another who comes only with the pragmatism of conservative ideology is far from Europe, and certain Iberia.

David

The author is the research at the International Affairs

David
The author is a
research at the
International Affairs

"Shall we just go shopping
or shall we go to Harrods?"



When you're purchasing books for W. H. Allen. Thinking to try my hand at the form, I jotted down on my cheque book cover the following book cover remarks: "I overheard at the party, which was to promote Cahn's autobiography, *I Should Care*. Some of the more likely song titles among them were: 'Thy Should Put Food in Both the Rooms'; 'I'm Just About To Go'; 'Where is Sammy? At the Far End of the Room'; 'We Kept Meeting at Publishers' Parties'; 'How are things in the Gray's Inn Road? When did you last see Adrian? Is He Back With Jenny Again?'

On the face of it, fairly un-

And share loving looks
As we scramble for our
 bookshee books.
But if you hang around
Till the final gin and tonic's
 downed
Maybe we can do the town
Just me and you :
For we keep meeting
At publishers' parties
And my heart is speaking
 volumes over ym
c Times Newspapers Ltd, 1975.
That might not make the
charts, and I am sure there are
many of you out there who
can do better . . .

Tasty

A cookery contest run by the

ding, which received neither prize nor a tasting.

Aboriginal

Neville Bonner is a lively Liberal senator in the Australian Federal Parliament in Canberra, on a visit to Britain as a guest of the Commonwealth Parliamentary Association. The shock of grey hair, the trim moustache and the immaculate dress are all in keeping with his position. Only the small smudge and dark skin reveal that he is the first Aborigine to sit in any parliament.

My reporter met Senator Bonner at the London head-

He gave a small demonstration in a Gloucestershire meadow last week while on his way to South Wales, causing panic among a grazing herd of Friesians.

Dollar Man with wide-angle eye and bionic right arm (additional kits available) and a Bash Kiss Kiss Doll (feel her actually peck your cheek), are faintly unreal.

My reporter dragged himself away from the 00 gauge Flying Scotsman train set long enough

Hugh Scanlon, president of the Engineering Union, rather limp handed his congratulation to his secretary John Boyd. The latter's election was yesterday. The enthusiasm was only do with Boyd and Scanlon.

100

caught his right hand
blades of his mo
while cutting the g
Broadstairs weeken
requiring a number



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TORE DEFEAT THAN VICTORY

Instant reactions to the latest events at the British Steel Corporation were abroad yesterday. The first was that Sir Monty Finiston had won a significant tactical victory. The second was that he had suffered a serious jolt to his personal authority. The first conclusion draws, though, on the following analysis. For the long term the Corporation suffers from over-aging, low productivity and a plant. A long-term strategy, covering at least the next decade, was agreed with the Government. The implementation of this plan was, however, opposed by the present Government; for political and social reasons it shirked the issue and rejected the whole again to their review under Lord Bess. The result of this process is delay, without any indication of a timetable, decisions to the efficient functioning of the Corporation in the long term.

According to this version, the Corporation took tactical advantage of the present acute recession in the industry to call for less publicly for 20,000 redundancies. The purpose of this Finiston initiative was to bring the trade unions' learned face to face with industrial reality. It has resulted in positive cost savings being achieved much sooner than would otherwise have been the case in an area of unnecessary overtime working, absenteeism and faster wastage of manpower. In short, a well-judged tactical exercise, resulting in most of the immediate objectives being achieved.

The second version of events leads to a different conclusion. In this, the chairman of the Corporation is seen to have attempted a short-term outflanking operation on the Government. He has failed, and the Corporation is again stalled for political reasons in a further long-term review. The Corporation sought to use the circumstances of the present recession to get at once up to half the labour saving and some of the capacity closures that had been envisaged.

According to this analysis, the Corporation has in fact substantially had to climb down in the face of political and union pressure. The concessions made on Monday by the unions are most unlikely to produce the labour cost savings claimed, because their implementation depends on further detailed discussions and agreements, plant by plant, through the whole of the BSC's operations. Sir Monty Finiston, in this view, has been forced publicly to unroll his colours from the mast.

The evidence tends to support this second interpretation. Certainly, the reaction yesterday by the unions concerned was that they were well satisfied with the outcome. In that case, Sir Monty Finiston, who also has

his detractors within the Corporation, will be in a difficult personal position.

Such an outcome has, also, serious implications for the relations of other nationalized industries to the Government. Sir Monty may not have presented it with the tact and political skill of, say, a Lord Roberts, but his case was substantial on two counts. First, it is important that the heads of major nationalized industries should have the stature and ability to put through structural changes in the industries for which they are responsible. The BSC episode is leading to a closing of ranks on the part of these chairmen which is a positive development.

Secondly, on the substantial issue, Sir Monty was right. The steel industry, in common with others, is undercapitalized and overmanned, with consequent low productivity. It is important that manning levels should be reduced as quickly as is consonant with humane management to more realistic levels, with production being concentrated in the more efficient plants and being phased out of the more antiquated. No one can overestimate the difficulties of steering the right path through such a politically involved industry as steel. The fact, however, that Sir Monty took a firm public line on this issue and has not prevailed is damaging on both counts.

ERROR AND COUNTER TERROR

A Spanish Government has made a report compiled by legal experts and published in today's *Times*, according to which more than two thousand people were arrested in the Basque provinces between April and May 13 and temporary detention centres had to be set because there was not enough in the prisons. It is a denial which lacks the ring of conviction and it avoids any formal admission of the most serious allegations quoted by our correspondent, according to which many of those arrested have been tortured or brutally beaten by police. But then, any such admission would be hard to reconcile with the condition of her: Eustasio Erquicia, who was brought to hospital in Bilbao May 10 with critical kidney injuries after two days' interrogation by the police.

That is certainly true is that Basque country is currently experiencing a wave of violence which has not reasonably been credited as a reign of terror. At least one Bilbao church was hit by a Whitman mass attack on the priests fled from the parish after one of them, a 72-year-old man, was killed in the library. Large numbers of professional people have had their homes or offices bombed, or machine-gunned. Others received death threats, and

many have felt obliged to leave the area for the sake of their own and their families' safety.

Whatever the true number of people who have been arrested, there is no sign that they include the perpetrators of this reign of terror, the self-styled "guerrillas of Christ the King". Whoever they may be, these are not Basque nationalist guerrillas. Arrests and terrorism are directed against the same class of people: those known or suspected to sympathize with the Basque nationalist cause. Indeed it is accepted in Spain that these are right wing guerrillas and it is even believed that many of the "guerrillas" are in fact Madrid policemen in mufti. How far their activities are positively encouraged by the government is not clear, but certainly no attempt has yet been made to interfere with them.

The motive of the campaign is clear enough: it is intended as a reply in kind to the long-standing but lately increasingly effective terrorism of ETA, the revolutionary Basque nationalist group which assassinated the Spanish Prime Minister in December 1973 and since then has claimed the lives of twenty-five members of the Spanish political police.

ETA itself is no more attractive than any other extremist group which preaches and practices revolutionary violence. Its slogans and tactics are probably not actively supported by more than a small minority of the Basque population. But it chose those tactics on the basis of an analysis of the Spanish regime which unhappily is proving correct. Since the regime permits no peaceful or democratic expression of Basque national aspirations, more moderate Basque nationalists are understandably unwilling to issue public condemnations of ETA's violence. (Indeed Mr Anoveros, the Bishop of Bilbao, showed considerable moral courage in appealing to "both sides" to end the violence in his Whitman pastoral letter. Many of his clergy would probably have preferred to see him place responsibility firmly on the government side.) By replying to ETA's violence with the violence of its own against moderate nationalists, the regime is responding exactly as ETA would wish, and ignoring the excellent advice given to it by its own former police chief in the Basque provinces, that "to solve the basic problem posed by ETA, political methods must take over from police measures".

The Basque problem will inevitably be one of the most difficult for any future democratic regime in Spain to tackle. The risk is that before dying the present regime will have succeeded in making it insoluble.

INSECURE HANDLING OF EXOTIC GERMS

The disquieting issues have been raised in a report published yesterday about the way hazardous strains of virus and bacteria are often handled in laboratories. Government establishments, universities, hospitals, technical colleges and commercial organizations. The disclosures come from an inquiry started two years following the smallpox incident at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine when an accidental infection of laboratory worker was transmitted to two outside contacts who subsequently died. This led to a request for a review of the safety standards adopted for the handling of organisms capable of leading disease to people and animals. The smallpox tragedy demonstrated how vulnerable people could be to a virulent organism introduced suddenly to unsuspecting population. Indeed, international health regulations have removed much the fear of the spread of such dreadful disease in Britain and other preventive measures exist cope with the disease in normal circumstances. However, there are other deadly viruses which which no protection has been devised.

They can produce conditions such as Lassa fever and rabies, or green monkey, disease from which the chances of recovery are slim. Public health experts have become increasingly anxious about these infections: though originating in tropical countries, air travel has already transferred some of these diseases and their victims to other parts of the world. Strains of the viruses responsible for some of these frightening fevers are deliberately grown in laboratories in Britain, and elsewhere in Europe and America, in the search for effective antidotes. Micro-organisms of this type are described in the report on dangerous pathogens as "exotic specimens" against which the greatest care must be taken to safeguard public health.

The inquiry, by a group under Sir George Godber, which included some very experienced microbiologists, revealed that conditions in many laboratories working with hazardous organisms are far from satisfactory. Indeed the first part of the investigation had to concentrate on discovering exactly what infectious agents and materials were used.

Over seventy harmful pathogens were identified in use by nearly 600 laboratories. The number of centres at which experiments are done with virulent organisms has come as something of a surprise: at the very least the results of the survey should be converted into a permanent directory of

laboratories monitored by the appropriate Government agency. Even more startling were some of the applications of these biologically active agents. Some concern was expressed that such a vicious food poisoning organism as *Salmonella typhi* should be used to test disinfectant. Similar anxiety was voiced about the readiness to keep *Mycobacterium tuberculosis* for teaching.

However the main recommendation of the report was the separation of organisms into two categories A and B according to their potency and threat to public health. Those agents against which the population has no protection would be in the first group. Under a proposed new system of licensing of laboratories to handle any of the organisms, the most dangerous ones would be permitted for experimental work and special medical diagnosis techniques only on compelling arguments of necessity.

The inquiry has revealed that purpose-built laboratories, of which there are too few, are the most satisfactory in terms of safety standards. An inevitable consequence of insisting on the standards proposed in this report is that many lines of research and experiment will be confined to a handful of first-class institutes: but it is a price we must be prepared to pay.

rt in country houses

Lord Clifford of Chudleigh, Peter Fuller (article, May 10) got things wrong. A wealth tax, as far as those in my position are concerned, will mean the loss of one or another of articles of immense value to the country, as he explains.

For death duties we sold the only silver, the library and investments. But we have a large expensive wall space and so have spent the last 20 years restoring and hanging pictures in effect the only "photograph album". Our sixteenth-century Brecklands has returned from the restorers' hands 11 years' predecessor in the Adams' rooms and the effect of the rising damp on the pictures can be imagined. These pictures are of great value to the country and their value is

over the £100,000 mark—and the capital gains tax then it will pay us to burn the place down with its contents. Articles of present exempt from death duties because of their artistic or historical interest incur that tax when sold, and it is cumulative on the number of times there have been exemptions.

It has been suggested that exemptions may be made if one throws one's home open to the public on charge. We do not. The Adams Chapel, part of the house for historical reasons, is open to the public 60 days a year free. We take around an average of 500 a year in organized groups (eg. English Speaking Union, needlework guilds, museum groups, Devonshire Association, etc.) free. We have a certain Scout and Guide camp in the park (Capability Brown) free. A very large picture is on loan free to the Houses of Parliament.

We know of one instance where a bundle of historical documents, for which the British Museum offered £50,000 in 1962, is now lodged with an overseas bank until the owner gets an assurance that they won't be liable for either of these taxes.

This will increase. Be honest, Mr Fuller, and admit you subscribe to the Benn dogma that if everyone cannot have a thing then nobody should; or alternatively explain to me how it can be to my financial advantage to dispose of paintings that have been exempt from four sets of death duties.

I am, Sir, your obedient servant, CLIFFORD, Upton Park, Chudleigh, South Devon. May 12.

Handling of British Leyland crisis

From Mr R. H. Grierson
Sir, Nothing illustrates more vividly the extent to which the public authorities in this country now live in a cloud of economic uncertainty than the contrast between our handling of the British Leyland crisis and the manner in which similar crises of even greater magnitude are currently being handled in other countries.

Pan American Airways in the United States, the French computer concern "CII" and Volkswagen in West Germany all recently found themselves facing situations at least as critical as that of British Leyland. Yet notwithstanding the huge funding capabilities of the US Treasury, the deep-seated nationalisation of the French establishment and the not inconsiderable unemployment problems of the Federal Republic, solutions were in each case found on a basis of realism, calling for sacrifices where they were due—instead of, as in Britain, merely unloading the whole problem on to the taxpayer's back.

The three case histories are examples of how critical situations—and Britain is not alone in suffering these—need to be dealt with when they occur. Rushing to the Exchequer for money to support the status quo, which has become the standard British response, implies an attitude of such irresponsibility towards the management of the public purse that it is not surprising that our friends abroad shake their heads in bewilderment.

Yours faithfully,
R. H. GRIERSON,
Ascott Lodge,
Wing, Buckinghamshire.
May 20.

Immigrants and public order

From the High Commissioner for Guyana and others
Sir, The report of Judge Guya Morris's remarks (*The Times*, May 16) when sentencing five West Indian youths aged between 16 and 19 years to five years' imprisonment has caused us grave concern as to the damaging effect these remarks could have upon race relations in this country.

The Judge's reported statement that immigrant resettlement (and in this context "immigrant" undoubtedly means "black immigrant") in the "past 25 years has transformed peaceful and safe suburbs into high crime areas", can only have the effect of aggravating racial tension and hardening attitudes. The inference will also be surely, though falsely, drawn that this applies not only to south London but to all areas of high immigrant settlement.

The Home Office has repeatedly said that West Indians do not commit more crimes per head than the white population. It is therefore damaging and dangerous to infer that the presence of a large West Indian community inevitably leads to a high incidence of crime. A likely and appalling consequence of the Judge's remarks is that the majority of West Indians in this country who are honest and hard-working will feel further alienated.

It is important to recognize that the increase in crime is part of a phenomenon of the western world and the growth of crime among young people generally is very marked. Some of the well-known social pressures of inner city existence in your columns, and which are alike—poor housing, overcrowded conditions and lack of amenities. In the case of young blacks, there are additional pressures engendered by limited employment opportunities and a growing belief that society

A constitutional Bill of Rights

From Mr C. E. Garrett
Sir, It is particularly interesting to note from Lord Hailsham's article in your issue of May 19 that he, like a number of others who in the past have not thought that a Bill of Rights would be a desirable improvement to our Constitution, is now on the way to becoming convinced, if not yet wholly convinced, that a Bill of Rights is at least worth more serious consideration than has hitherto received.

In recent weeks there have been many public statements suggesting that a Bill of Rights or some similar constitutional settlement should be adopted. It is clear that there are many forms in which this could be done and various methods whereby any such provision could to a greater or lesser degree be entrenched and thereby protected from repeal or suspension under the pressure of some short-term emergency.

It may therefore be of interest to your readers to know that the British Institute of Human Rights has recently received a generous donation for the purpose of funding a project described in the following terms:

To investigate how fundamental human rights could be protected in the law of the United Kingdom, what should be the provisions of any Bill of Rights designed to achieve that protection, and how those provisions could themselves be best safeguarded against subsequent repeal or derogation; and to make public by all appropriate means the results of that investigation.

It is the hope of the Governors of the Institute that when the research has been completed it will be possible to publicize a report which will clarify and consolidate public opinion and perhaps lead to effective action. It is of course fully understood that the subject involves not merely the form and method of entrenchment of the desired legislation but also—and perhaps even more important—the method of enforcement and the need to consider whether special courts might be required.

It does not need to be said that what Lord Hailsham described as a "political judiciary" would emerge though it is clearly one of the matters which has to be weighed in the balance against the present clear need for better protection of human rights.

Yours faithfully,
GEOFFREY GARRETT
Chairman of the Board of Governors of the British Institute of Human Rights.
51 Minorities, EC3.
May 19.

Exercise of power

From Dr Bryan Thwaites
Sir, Last Friday the President of the National Union of Mineworkers said: "The miners are going to remain at the top of the tree, and if that hurts somebody I am sorry but that's the way I look at life." The declaration Mr Joseph Gormley sets himself against the people. His is the authentic voice of tyranny—no compassion for the weak; no thought for the qualities of a civilized society; only the exercise of self-assumed power.

Every day of coal-power has come to mean when the people realized that their freedom was worth more than anything else. Then they rose up without counting the cost.

Such a time is again nearly upon us. Up to now, again, our social malaise has shown—we have not been able to identify the root cause of our troubles; we have tried to count the cost of various remedies but there has been no cure. The way out has not been clear.

Now our enemies are declaring themselves; and soon the British people are going to decide, by a spontaneous will, that no matter what the cost—and in the case of an extended period of coal-power, disruption and hardship could be very great indeed—they will no longer tolerate tyrants like Mr J. Gormley.

Yours truly,
BRYAN THWAITES,
The Old House,
Westfield College,
Hamstead, NW3.
May 19.

EEC law in Britain

From Sir Con O'Neill
Sir, You have published this month letters from three MPs (Sir Arthur Irvine, Sir Michael Havers and Mr Michael Clark Hutchison—all of them barristers) about the effect on law in this country of our membership of the European Community. Mr Michael Clark Hutchison (May 19) quoted Lord Justice Scarman as saying, in an address given last autumn, that the European Communities Act 1972 had inaugurated "a legal revolution" in this country.

I do not think any lawyer (I am a barrister myself, if hardly any longer a lawyer) could deny this proposition, in the strict sense of the word "revolution": by which I mean a situation which could not possibly have come about by evolution alone. I myself made the point emphatically in my Stamp

reason that the pro-market campaign shies well away from any factual exposition and concentrates instead, on playing on fears of what they affect to imagine will happen to Britain if the referendum result was a resounding "No".

Nevertheless this does not excuse the barrage of innuendo which some pro-market have injected into the campaign, and which none of the conventional limits of robust and vigorous controversy. Undoubtedly we shall be invited to "have a sense of humour" or "show a sense of proportion". Such counsel would, however, be more impressive if it came from those who are capable themselves of showing some personal self-control in pursuing the argument.

May we say in conclusion that, while dissenting from the Prime Minister on the whole EEC question, we applaud the reasonable and statesmanlike stance he has taken during the European campaign and are united in our support of him regardless of the referendum result.

Yours sincerely,
BRUCE OF DONINGTON,
DAVIDS OF LEEK,
BROCKWAY,
CASTLE,
TAYLOR OF MANSFIELD,
SOVER,
BLYTON,
MAELOR,
House of Commons,
May 16.

Memorial Lecture of November 1972 on "Our European Future". Passages from Lord Justice Scarman's addresses have been several times quoted in recent months to support the case of those who oppose our membership. I hope he will not mind if I now try to redress the balance by citing him in support of the other side. In a BBC talk last autumn (*The Listener*, October 31) he made the same point about the "revolutionary" effect on our law of membership; and went on to speak of the effect on our law, if we remained part of the Common Market, of European methods and approaches to enacted law. "This," he said, "would be a breath of fresh air, greatly to the advantage of the law in the United Kingdom".

Yours faithfully,
CON O'NEILL,
Office for the Campaign to Keep Britain a Free Country, Community, 149 Old Park Lane, W1.
May 20.

Entry to the professions

From the Secretary of the Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators
Sir, May I support the timely contribution on the subject of entry into the professions, by Mr J. P. C. Sumpson (May 15).

Certainly this institute has no intention of introducing into its regulations any limitation to graduate entry. The essential feature of a profession in the British sense is that membership is based on a combination of study and experience, as closely related as is practicable. While this institute, like others, is glad to welcome a proportion of graduates, we regard the professions as a reservoir of expertise and ability fed by a variety of sources, of which in many ways the most important is the school leaver.

Anyone seeking entry to professional examinations should of course be able to show his ability to benefit from the courses provided. It is

therefore important for anyone seeking a career in administration to have had the advantage of a sixth form education, preferably in a subject area of relevance to business life, but a very wide field of choice is provided in this institute.

It is not automatically and necessarily to everyone's benefit to go on from school to university for three or more years, full time. For many, the facilities available in the world of further education, for full time and part time study, are much more suitable. Increasingly graduates are finding in an ever more competitive market, that a degree is not enough. Certainly in the world of business, public or private, more education and training, of a vocational and practical nature is essential.

Yours faithfully,
JOHN F. PHILLIPS, Secretary,
Institute of Chartered Secretaries and Administrators,
16 Park Crescent, W1.
May 20.

Abortion

From Professor Francois Lafitte
Sir, "Abortion: stop shielding the facts with a white coat" (article May 8).

Ronald Butt, in a remarkably vague statement, reports allegations by an anti-abortion organization against "one of the abortion charities" concerning a woman who was obliged to pay for an abortion she decided not to have.

The British Pregnancy Advisory Service is the largest of the abortion charities and the only one having its own nursing homes. If your readers associated this allegation

with it, we would like to make it quite clear that neither the British Pregnancy Advisory Service nor the London Pregnancy Advisory Service have any record of such an occurrence, and we think it important that Ronald Butt should name the abortion charity he had in mind.

Yours faithfully,
FRANCOIS LAFITTE,
Professor of Social Administration Birmingham University,
Chairman of Trustees,
British Pregnancy Advisory Service, Austy Manor, Wootton Wawen, Solihull, West Midlands.

Common or garden gnome

From Mr Hannu Koppel
Sir, I have been reading the recent correspondence in your columns on wildlife in London with the greatest of interest. I am, however, sorry that no mention has been made of one of this country's most fascinating beasts—the common or garden gnome. Though prevalent in the lush suburbs, this retiring creature appears to be most scarce in the city. I am happy to report that there is a mating pair of gnomes in our garden, and I have hopes that a brood of young will be reared before the autumn. I wonder whether other London dwellers have made similar sightings.

Yours faithfully,
HANNU KOPPEL,
20 Mysore Road, SW11.
May 20.

Whatever became of old Mrs Pearce?

Novelist Jean Rhys
contributes this week's guest column in our
International Women's Year series.

In one of Aldous Huxley's stories a Mr Hutton remarks that whenever he hears the word "cynical" he longs to say "Bow wow". Every time I hear the remark, "she thinks she's young" (for it's nearly always "she"), I feel like saying "Bow wow wow". For to think you're young when you're old is an impossibility. Old people are constantly reminded, every day, every hour, almost every minute that they are old; only a lunatic wouldn't be convinced.

But age seldom arrives smoothly or quickly. It's more often a succession of jerks. After the first you slowly recover. You "learn to live with the consequences". Then comes another and another. At last you realize that you'll never feel perfectly well again, never be able to move easily, or see or hear well.

You don't realize that you will die soon because while you are still alive this is inconceivable. But the knowledge is there, unconscious, hidden, suppressed. Willingly or not you think will I ever see another summer, another spring, ever do this, that or the other again?

People meet all this differently. Some yield without a struggle, even exaggeratedly. Some try to ignore it. Some fight it.

The first is, of course, the easiest, but has its dangers. When it becomes impossible to ignore age you can still fight it. Battle has its excitement, its plans, stratagems, defeats. Also its victories. It's a matter of character, temperament and circumstances. Why not allow the old, whenever possible, to follow their bent without interference, malice or ridicule? Why must everyone be forced into this legendary uncomfortable bed—the right size for all—for the tall have had their limbs lopped and the short have

been racked and stretched to fit? The tiresome old will soon be quiet enough.

Now for the compensations. For there are compensations of age. The first is that time alters. I don't know how else to put it. As a rule it gallops; scarcely is it Monday before it's Thursday, scarcely Thursday before it's Sunday and another week has gone. It's May, then August, then October and winter again. But other days, instead of flashing by, seem to stretch so that 12 hours becomes an enormous, an infinite time.

For instance, I (for now it must be I) wake very early: at the time of year I am writing this it is still dark. I used to keep a book handy, put the light on and read, but now I've decided to save my eyes I get up instead, and without looking at myself, stumble along the passage, switching lights on as I go. Then I am filling the kettle, taking the blue cup off its hook (careful, now, don't drop it), getting a saucer, spoon, sugar. From then on its routine.

After tea and cigarettes it gets lighter and I am happier. Perhaps the real deep feeling is of joy, even triumph, that one has survived the night. Once more darkness has been conquered and, however dreary, day will soon be here. Of course you could die during the day, but it's not likely, not even possible, is it? This year, next year, sometime, again becomes never.

The first motor cycle passes, the sun rises, cold and watery, perhaps, but sun. It is then that time stretches, time that you're free to spend exactly as you wish. You can eat what you like when you like, drink what you like when you like, or not at all, for no reproving warning glance forces you to drink out of defiance. You

can spend a couple of hours dressing or slop around, not bothering to dress at all, reading passages from King Solomon's Mines or Lady Audley's Secret. Or wander about in what passes for a garden. There's time for everything. The intoxicating feeling of freedom repays you a thousand times for any loneliness you may have endured.

And while I am on the subject, loneliness is not the worst thing by any means. Some old people are lonely. But a great many others live in dread of being interfered with, persuaded or even forced to do something which they know will be catastrophic.

Old people, especially women living alone, are very vulnerable. Some are protected by money (up to a point), some by friends or relatives (perhaps, perhaps). But some are not. And the older and frailer they grow, the weaker their position, the greater their dread of being interfered with. I don't know whether the story of the old lady who hid the fact that she'd broken her leg for two weeks is true. She so feared the sort of help that would be flung at her. I for one believe it.

"What's become of old Mrs Pearce?" you wonder. She usually passes my window on her daily walk and I haven't seen her for some time. You're told that Mrs Pearce is now perfectly happy in an old people's home. "Perfectly happy, they're so kind." You remember uneasily that the last time you saw Mrs P, she said that more than anything else she dreaded being sent to an old people's home. "I keep very clear of them," she'd said. "Don't let them in the house if I can help it." But when I halfheartedly suggest visiting her it seems she's going through a difficult phase. She keeps saying she wants to



Photograph by Fay Godwin

go home and won't eat or talk of anything else.

"Why not let her go home then?" I say. "She's quite able to look after herself."

"Not now," I'm told. Perhaps not after six weeks of worry and anxiety, longing for her usual chair, her favourite cup, and wondering who will put out milk for the hedgehog which is almost a pet. Soon Mrs Pearce isn't mentioned any more and that's the end of Mrs Pearce.

The sad thing is that a fierce desire for independence and freedom can exist with the longing for companionship or help. It generally does. It's a difficult problem which euthanasia would solve. The trouble is that human nature being what it is, euthanasia wouldn't be voluntary for long. Nor would it stop at old people. Two more compensations. The first

is that old people like children, can live in the present. A fine day, feeling almost well, some small pleasure and they forget everything else. Perhaps only old people and children can do this. Or should I say, some old people, some children.

The other compensation is the calm that often comes with age. If you've often tried in the past to put yourself to sleep by repeating "nothing matters, nothing matters at all," it's a relief when few things really do matter any longer. This indifference or calm, whatever you like to call it, like a cave at the back of your mind where you can retire and be alone and safe. The outside world is very far away. If you sometimes long for a fierce dog to guard your cave, that's only on bad days. Perhaps tomorrow will be a good day.

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The answer to spina bifida ignorance

One of the additional and preventable causes of distress felt by the parents of a handicapped child is the ignorance of the general public about the disorder from which their child is suffering. It was in response to requests from parents of children with spina bifida for a book explaining the problem in simple language that Nancy Allum came to write *Spina Bifida*—the treatment and care of spina bifida children—which has just been published by George Allen & Unwin.

This is a practical and sympathetic book written by a journalist who has obviously learnt her subject by spending a great deal of time with families facing the problem, while she accompanied the professionals involved in their care. Much of this time was spent with the specialist medical social worker attached to the team working in South Wales. The value of such a specialist is clear since many general practitioners and health visitors may not have had the opportunity to become experienced in the care of spina bifida children and therefore be able to answer all the questions asked by their parents.

In normal babies the spinal cord—the body's main nerve trunk leading downwards from the brain—is safely housed within the chain of vertebrae which comprise the spine. In spina bifida the formation of one or two of the vertebrae, usually in the lower part of the spine, has gone wrong. These remain split, leaving a gap in the skin so that the spinal cord is exposed or covered with only a thin membrane. As well as being exposed in this way the spinal cord is usually malformed. Consequently, the nerve supply to the legs is affected so that they are paralysed and lack normal sensation. The nerves to the bladder and rectum are also involved, causing loss of control of urine and stools.

The gap in the skin can be repaired surgically without much difficulty but the abnormality of the spinal cord persists so that paralysis of the legs and of the sphincters for the bladder and bowels remains. Moreover, most cases of severe spina bifida are associated with hydrocephalus, or water on the brain. This water comprises an excess of the cerebrospinal fluid, which fills the cavities (ventricles) in the brain. The accumulation of fluid occurs as a result of obstruction to the normal circulation of fluid through the spinal cord because of an associated abnormality of the brain and spinal cord at the exit of the cord from the skull.

Hydrocephalus can be relieved by inserting a tube leading from one ventricle into the heart via a valve in the neck. Excess cerebrospinal fluid is now drained into the blood stream and a valve in the tube prevents the reverse flow of blood into the brain. This valve was the invention of an American engineer named Holter, the parent of a child with spina bifida. The problem with hydrocephalus is that it is liable to have existed before birth and caused damage to the child before surgery is possible.

The number of children surviving with spina bifida is now falling but this does not reduce the need for a book of this nature since the disorder is still one of the commoner varieties of congenital malformation. Moreover, it serves its purpose well in that it is informative for the general public as well as for affected parents. Many of the problems found by children with spina bifida are common to those with other forms of physical handicap. The better informed the public is about handicaps the more understanding and supporting is the community.

One reason for the fall in the numbers of surviving children with the condition is an unexplained drop in the number of babies born with spina bifida over the last few years. This may only be temporary since fluctuations in frequency have occurred in previous years, though this fall has been particularly dramatic. Another reason is the altered attitude among doctors to early operation for all affected children.

Twelve years ago the publication of a paper by a team of doctors in Sheffield demonstrated that early surgical closure of the gap in the overlying skin increased the immediate chance of survival. This work played a major part in influencing paediatric surgeons towards early operation for all babies born with spina bifida. With the passage of time it has become apparent that the quality of life for the survivors and for families raises serious doubt to the wisdom of this practice. Consequently, most doctors who are responsible for care of such babies feel those chosen for surgery should be carefully selected on the basis of survival with a minimum of disability for the patient and maintenance of the family unit.

Such practice means those considered unsuitable for surgery should not be helped by giving antibiotics, the infections which are used to cause the surgery. This is stressful both for parents and for the doctor nurses in charge but it is a which can be borne if parents and professionals work together as a team and there is agreement about the problem parties are facing. The loss of a handicapped child is no less than the loss of a normal to parents.

An unknown number of babies with spina bifida die as the result of a serious miscarriage. It is now rare that about half the foetus by spontaneous abortion malformed. It is for reasons that a doctor may be "leaving a baby to die" in threatened miscarriage.

Today, the children with spina bifida should be full citizens though their families will need informed support. They should be able to live, as they will usually achieve this, essential that they become upright as near as possible to the age that is reached by normal children. Before they can do this, to explore their environment like normal children, it is vital to learn.

Urinary incontinence is prevented by diverting the stream of urine from the bladder into a bag attached to the outside of the body. A bag is attached to the spout which changes as necessary. Children particularly liable to get thereby creating a handicap they must carry. I due to the fact that they about less than normal. An additional reason that some mothers, in distress over having a capped child, may try to extra love by giving extra attention.

Wherever possible the child should be educated in ordinary schools, although this may require the provision of simple modifications such as ramps, rails and entrances just as these needed in the child's home. The cause of spina bifida is unknown and it is not thought to be inherited. There is a certain hereditary factor and parents of an affected child should receive genetic counselling in order that they know their risks in future pregnancies.

The main need for the child and their parents is informed advice. Normal and their parents will by contact with children with spina bifida. Camilla Jefferies, author of *Wheelchair Adventures*, published Methuen, will be useful to children, whether handicapped or not in order that they better understand the problems faced by those who are handicapped.

Dr Hugh J. Mark's *Wheelchair Adventures* by Camilla Jefferies published Methuen Children's Books price £1.95. *Spina Bifida* by Nancy Allum published by George Allen & Unwin, price £4.95 (hard £2.80 (paperback).

Which side will sway the new youth vote?

In the weeks leading up to the referendum on the EEC in Norway in September, 1972, a loud and growing voice against entry was heard coming from the student world. It argued that a vote for joining was a vote for the right, for the Establishment; it quickly became the cult, and more radical to vote "No". This voice soon swelled to take in not only university students but the young in general, and is said to have contributed

powerfully to Norway's referendum results. There is a definite feeling that the same wave could build up here in the universities and the polytechnics. Both pro and anti-Market campaigners among the young are naturally trying to guide the wave, and anti-Marketees in particular are making the most of the radical "No" at student meetings. Both camps, however, are now suggesting that a growing mass student vote will build up

specifically in their direction: the National Union of Students, who came out against the Community at their Easter conference, have consulted Norwegian student leaders about their campaign and are talking about bringing them over to address British university audiences. The British Youth Council, on the other hand, which recently declared that it is to campaign for a "Yes" vote, believes a solid pro-Market feeling will

now start to gain ground among students and then spread out. The NUS are the most vocal and the most active of the anti-Marketees among the young. The pro-Market amendment at their conference was defeated by a surprisingly close 265,953 to 106,498 votes, but the dual campaign of getting their 700,000 members to vote "No" and of organizing anti-Market activities, is only now really beginning to get

under way, and NUS anti-Market themselves in favour, four committees have been set up in the past to put yourself to sleep by repeating "nothing matters, nothing matters at all". It's a relief when few things really do matter any longer. This indifference or calm, whatever you like to call it, like a cave at the back of your mind where you can retire and be alone and safe. The outside world is very far away. If you sometimes long for a fierce dog to guard your cave, that's only on bad days. Perhaps tomorrow will be a good day.

Most campaigners agree that apart from this question of peace, and the breaking down of national barriers, there are, surprisingly, no distinct youth issues. What there is, however, is a tremendously strong feeling about the referendum. Schools and colleges are expressing considerable interest, inviting speakers to address them, holding debates and arranging seminars, and students are arguing strongly among themselves. The various organizations are all confident of at least a very high turnout among the young on voting day, particularly among those eligible for the first time to vote, even if they are unclear about what the young will say.

The anti-Marketees report that while they have lost support among the over-55s in recent months, they have gained much ground among the under-25s. Yet colleges say that in their own private ballots votes seem to be splitting remarkably evenly at the moment, despite NUS activities, so the Norwegian scenario is not being repeated here, at least at the moment. And pro-Marketees are deriving comfort from the fact their young supporters, by sticking up posters, wearing special T-shirts, canvassing and doing a lot of important leg work, which is just the sort of thing that might influence older voters, now doubtful about what vote they intend to cast on polling day.

The British Youth Council brings with it 700,000 members in organizations ranging from the National Federation of Young Farmers' Clubs to the National Association of Youth Clubs, not all of whom, though most, are of voting age. The council recently decided to circulate their 13 member organizations with a questionnaire about the Community. The returns were impressively unanimous: nine of the groups declared

that while they have lost support among the over-55s in recent months, they have gained much ground among the under-25s. Yet colleges say that in their own private ballots votes seem to be splitting remarkably evenly at the moment, despite NUS activities, so the Norwegian scenario is not being repeated here, at least at the moment. And pro-Marketees are deriving comfort from the fact their young supporters, by sticking up posters, wearing special T-shirts, canvassing and doing a lot of important leg work, which is just the sort of thing that might influence older voters, now doubtful about what vote they intend to cast on polling day.

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Caroline Moorehead

The price of a double spring

There have been two springs this year. The first started at Christmas, when it ought to have been winter and lower temperatures would have inhibited the growth of plants, the precocious activities of the resident birds and the premature flight of butterflies. There was not much difference in mammal behaviour, except that hedgehogs, where I live, never attempt to hibernate, badgers changed their bedding earlier than usual and frogs and toads started spawning at least a month in advance of normal time.

There were soon reports of early-nesting robins, thrushes and blackbirds. Peewits began displaying and making nest-scrapes in wet, warm meadows where marsh marigolds had come into low flower. Larks sang exuberantly among partridge meadow pipits, high over the young corn. Even the records of exceptionally rare migrants, like the Isabelline Shrike and Yellow-browed Warblers on the south coast seemed less strange because of the extraordinarily warm season, for there were more over-wintering blackcaps and chaff-chaffs than usual. Firecrests, ordinarily so sought by bird-watchers, became abundant and quickly ventured some way inland.

In the woods, woodcock had started coming early and black-bell leaves grew tall. Bees of wild daffodils starting flowering in mid-February, between carpets of green moschatel, dog's mercury and the first bright shoots of sweet woodruff. Bumble bees revelled in the daffodils' trumpets and in the pollen and nectar of the gold or green flowers of the pussy willows. Small tortoiseshell butterflies stopped for nectar from ground ivy flowers, or lesser celandines, and male "sulphurs" or brimstones sipped, with their wings closed on the numerous primroses and coltsfoot sunbursts.

White and red dead-nettles, buttercups, dandelions, wild chervil and pink campions flowered on hedgebanks and had been in bloom without a break since last summer. Hawthorn, elms and honeysuckles were in small leaf and sycamore saplings had swelling buds. Wood ants were fully active on sandy commons and had started building up their great nests. They were watched by lizards enjoying the first warmth of the sun and later by eye-flicker, called "adders".

The first part of March brought out still more wild flowers and insects and the first of the spring migrant birds arrived. The white rumps of wheatears showed among sea campion flowers; pairs of fulmars perched on holes in white cliffs under tufts of budding thrift and chaff-chaffs began calling in earnest.

Countrymen, who had been shaking their heads for weeks, disliking the unnatural mildness, became gloomier and gloomier in their foreboding. Arctic weather arrived suddenly in the second half of March. The flowers were bent to the ground and covered with snow. Frost was succeeded by severe frost. All the flying insects, except bumblebees, vanished and the cold dawn was enclosed in thick fog. The birds were frantic for food and the belated winter seemed endless.

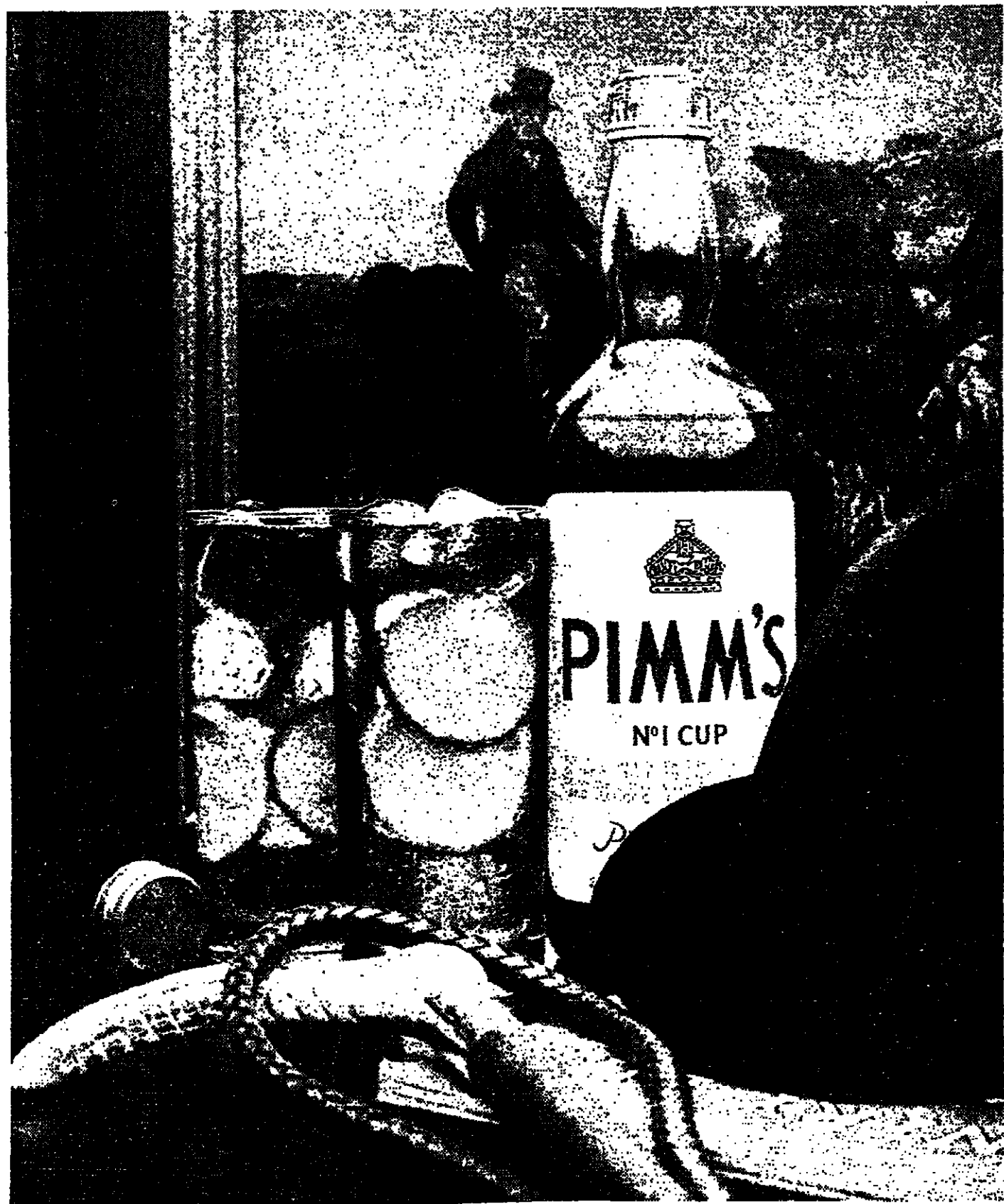
Then, half-way through April, the temperature rose and a second spring rushed in. Within a few days swallows were here and sandmartins hawked over tall marsh marigolds on the water meadows. The damaged leaves in time to greet the first nightingale and the cuckoo arrived punctually as his wood thrush "virtually" and his snook "meat" flowers bloomed. Orange-rumped butterflies came out in more

flowers opened and there plenty of female brimstone. It seems likely that the butterflies died for the first time in the history of the world. An undoubted scarcity of male brimstones which were plentiful in February. The spring flowers now jostle the later cowslips and forget-me-nots and the foot and early willow grass with plenty of buds, brought to have been over wago.

Some of the frog and spawns have hatched, although great deal "went off" as countrymen say. The "wag" nests are getting up and there are plenty of lizards and adders about. Long-tailed goldcrests, chaffinches, goldfinches are busy among mossy ivy, moss spider webs to complete their nests. Their activity was as advanced at the end of first spring as that of garden birds which already young.

Many nestlings died as their parents searched too long for food but they were forgotten when the second spring came and robins, thrushes, blackbirds are collecting bare mosses of moss and old weavable material again.

Alison Ro



Pimm's people have style.


Stock Exchange Prices

Late selling

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, May 19. Dealings End, May 30. § Contango Day, June 2. Settlement Day, June 10.

§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

Drake
in stake
image



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CBI in plea
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CBI in place
action not

company law
and the rights
of workers.
Page 21

THE TIMES

BUSINESS NEWS

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Sir Eric Drake says bigger government stake would harm BP's image abroad

British Petroleum does not say the 21 per cent stake now held by the Government of England to be acquired by the British Government, Sir Eric Drake, BP chairman, said today.

Although the Government has held more than its 48 per cent direct stake, Sir Eric said the Government's share in the company's operations, he added.

Drake's remarks caused a stir at the Department of Energy. Although he has previously made his views known to the former British Petroleum holding, he is not expected to make such an outspoken public statement at this stage.

Drake said he was not aware of any plans to increase the Government's share in the company's operations, he added.

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Sir Eric Drake: concerned over government shareholding.

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Shell and BP cut 1p off industrial fuel and derv

By Roger Velez

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BSC orders immediate action to carry out agreement with unions on £100m savings

By Peter Hill

The British Steel Corporation yesterday ordered the immediate implementation of the agreement worked out with the unions to achieve savings of £100m in its employment costs this year.

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Sea groups in participation talks

Energy Correspondent: Government moves to speed up policy of oil company participation in the North Sea oil fields.

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French franc rejoins 'the snake'

From David Cross

The French franc has unofficially rejoined the European Community's system of jointly floating currencies while the rest of the snake is still in the process of being re-integrated.

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Dagenham men vote to continue stoppage

By R. W. Shakespeare

Northern Industrial Correspondent: One of two labour disputes which are causing heavy disruption in the motor industry is definitely to continue and prospects of the other being settled this week now appear very slim.

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Life offices liquidation policy urged

By Margaret Stone

An eleven-hour appeal from the Scottish Provident Association, an implacable opponent of the Policyholders Protection Bill, has called on the Government to review liquidation procedures applying to life offices as an alternative to the Bill.

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Enkalon seeks compensation for Flixborough loss

By Our Industrial Correspondent

Compensation is being claimed by British Enkalon for the loss of supplies of caprolactam, used in the manufacture of nylon, as a result of the explosion at the Flixborough chemical plant last year.

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£8m rights issue by Ever Ready

Ever Ready, the battery maker, joined the long list of companies seeking funds from the stock market with the announcement of an £8.4m rights issue yesterday.

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Rel writ by Highland director

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CBI in plea for joint action on industry

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Taxation laws becoming 'unworkable'

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How the markets moved

FT index: 355.9 +2.1
The Times index: 146.79 +2.31

Rises	Falls	THE POUND
BP 143p to 147p	Brit Home Strs 4p to 36p	Australia \$ 1.77
Burdays Bk 12p to 12p	BSR 5p to 7p	Austria Sch 39.50
Burton Gp 11p to 7p	Brit Enkalon 1p to 16p	Belgium Fr 84.50
Beecham Gp 11p to 25p	Cons Gold Fields 5p to 28p	Canada \$ 2.42
Contin K 11p to 21p	French Kier 1p to 13p	Denmark Kr 12.85
Fisons 20p to 21p	GRN 1p to 25p	Finland Mk 8.10
Hammerston 20p to 46p	Goldhall 2p to 5p	France Fr 9.55
		Germany DM 5.55
		Greece Dr 66.75
		Hongkong \$ 11.25
		India Lr 146.00
		Japan Yn 700.00
		Netherlands Gld 5.65
		Norway Kr 11.60
		Portugal Esc 36.00
		S Africa Rd 1.88
		Spain Pes 130.75
		Sweden Kr 9.30
		Switzerland Fr 5.90
		Yugoslavia Dnr 39.00

Three-month profits boost for Woolworth

By Our Financial Staff

Higher profits and accelerating sales in the opening quarter at Woolworth provided an encouraging contrast to last year's hefty fall at the pre-tax profits level.

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12m orders for Scots company

Export orders worth £12m for Scots and Ghana have been won by a Scottish company, Sander of Paisley, which is to supply a fleet of seven river and 12 hopper barges for Cuba.

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GROUP PROFIT MAINTAINED IN 1974

L&P
LONDON & PROVINCIAL POSTER GROUP LIMITED

Highlights from the circulated statement of the Chairman, MR. N. H. GARDNER, T.D., B.A.:

Marginal increase in Group pre-tax profit from £1,260,453 to £1,288,013 and net profit attributable to Shareholders up from £583,498 to £663,216.

Maximum permitted dividend to be paid. Total for year 7.89p per 50p share against 7.12p for 1973.

Further progress and expansion in Australia with pre-tax profits up from £209,973 to £266,527.

Difficult to forecast future trading, but after a slow start in 1975 business is currently improving and we are looking at the months ahead with cautious optimism.

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STOREYS
"The personal and home decor specialists"

Confident start to the current year

Dr. David A. Harper, Chairman, addressing the Annual General Meeting reported on the current year as follows:-

- "Unaudited figures for the first 15 weeks of this year indicated that we have traded at an appreciably better level of profit than in the second half of last year. This reflects the delivery of orders of the new Decorene range - the majority to export markets - some of which would have fallen into 1974 but for the delay in commissioning our new factory last year together with better-than-budgeted sales for other important parts of our product range.
- "I am therefore confident we shall produce reasonably satisfactory profits for the first half of this year.
- "Cash flow for the year to date has been good and has enabled us to reduce our borrowings further.
- "It nevertheless remains impossible to forecast meaningfully the likely outcome of the second six months in the light of present uncertainties as to the rate of inflation at home, levels of demand in our major markets and whether we remain in the Common Market."

Copies of the full report and Chairman's Statement may be obtained from the Secretary

STOREY BROTHERS & COMPANY LTD., White Cross, Lancaster

New house prices show uptrend in first quarter

By Margaret Stone

House prices are hardening, according to the latest survey published yesterday by the Department of the Environment in cooperation with the Building Societies Association.

The most up-to-date figures are those for mortgages approved on new houses during the first quarter of the year. The index in this category has shown its biggest rise for more than a year, moving from 122 in the last quarter of 1974 to 228 in the first quarter, an increase of 3 per cent.

In respect of mortgage completions (based on approvals granted mainly in the preceding quarter), house prices were more static. New dwellings rose by 21 per cent while the price of second-hand houses was almost unchanged. The average price of all houses rose by 1 per cent to £11,180.

Advances (as a proportion of the asking price) rose by 2 per cent to 16.850 or 61.2 per cent, but this conceals the wide difference in the treatment of first and second-time buyers. New owner-occupiers obtained average advances of 74.6 per cent of the cost, second-time buyers obtained an advance representing on average 52.7 per cent of the house price.

Regional average house prices in the first quarter ranged from £8,710 (£8,344 in the last quarter of 1974) in the Yorkshire and Humbersides region to £14,473 in Greater London—where the average was actually higher in the last three months of 1974 at £14,850.

Unit trust sales at highest level since June 1973

Unit trust sales—and values—are booming along with the stock market, according to figures released yesterday by the Association of Unit Trust Managers.

The total value of the industry's 339 unit trusts was £2,233m at the end of the month compared with £1,310m at the end of last year. The last time the industry's net worth was near this level was in November, 1973.

In April gross sales of £33.9m were comfortably ahead of the £27.4m average gross monthly intake during the first quarter of the year, and are in fact the highest gross sales figure since June 1973.

At the net level, the figures are equally encouraging, with sales of £21.9m, 56m above March's net and about £4m higher than the average monthly figure for the quarter.

Apart from the initial launch of the TSB Scottish Unit Trust, which attracted around £500,000 from investors during the period, there are no exceptional circumstances behind the big improvement in unit trust sales. The rapid increase in unit sales in the wake of a healthier stock market does, however, indicate the growing use of tax-efficient unit trusts by professional advisers.

Port employers condemn proposal to extend dock labour scheme

By Paul Routledge

Port employers yesterday told Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment that Government plans to extend the dock labour scheme to a five-mile corridor on either side of the Thames and to unregistered docks was unnecessary and would damage the industry's long-term prospects of recovery.

In a strongly critical reaction put to the Department of Employment, the National Association of Port Employers and the British Ports Association agree that the docks labour scheme introduced to deal with casual employment after the Second World War has outlived its usefulness.

If a statutory system of regulation for dock labour is still needed, the employers argue, it should be a licensing arrangement for the employers and not a state registration scheme "that guarantees a job for life save in cases of exceptional misconduct".

In an indictment of the present scheme, the employers say that the size of their labour force cannot be effectively controlled at a time of falling manpower requirement. Reduction can only be made on a voluntary basis and "excessive severance payments must be offered to coax dockworkers to leave".

Severance procedures are slow, and employers are forced to carry surplus labour at full basic wages. Since the 1972 Aldington-Jones inquiry, men must be reallocated to other employers if their services are required.

"This can have a snowball effect since in a port that is losing traffic, other employers may already be finding it difficult to remain in business and in consequence the process of reallocation can give rise to more closures with the requirement of further reallocation."

The employers also cite the difficulty in persuading dockworkers who are physically unfit to handle cargo to leave the industry, so that men for whom there is no useful work stay

on the pay roll. "This problem is particularly serious in the Port of London."

They add: "In the ultimate, the whole viability of a port can be placed in jeopardy due to surplus labour requiring to be retained". If the dock labour scheme is extended to small ports that have in the past relied on casual labour there is a "strong possibility" that some of them will have to close down.

Furthermore, container groupage operators are likely to leave areas chosen as the preserve of dockworkers if they are forced to employ registered labour.

The employers submit that the dock labour scheme should be scaled down and the Dock Labour Board's powers limited so as to preclude the compulsory extension of dockworkers' rights to an employer's requirements.

They also want further measures to redress the balance of power towards their side, including a stronger disciplinary procedure.

Progress in talks on all-European airliner

By Arthur Reed

British Airways and two other leading European-based airlines, Air France and Lufthansa of West Germany, are studying common need for a new airliner on European routes from 1980 onwards, a Commons committee was told yesterday.

A memorandum by BA to the Select Committee on Nationalised Industries said that the aircraft would be a replacement for the fleet of Trident. Many technical details had already been agreed between the three airlines, but because of continuing uncertainty about European traffic forecasts they had not yet agreed on seating capacity requirements.

The memorandum went on: "Our different levels of optimism and pessimism in our studies produce a range of aircraft size, and point to a possible need for two aircraft types of approximately 120 and 180 seats. We hope to resolve these differences during the next few months and to issue an agreed outline of requirement to the manufacturing industry."

Cost of research and development, to be shared between the three airlines, is likely to be at least £100m, making the aircraft more expensive at first than American competitors.

But an agreement on the specification of such a big airliner would give an enormous boost to the aerospace industry in Europe, where it would be designed and manufactured.

The coming together of BA, Air France and Lufthansa may be seen as an attempt by the European airlines to break free from their heavy reliance on United States aircraft. Directors of Air France were recently told by their government to buy European products and were threatened with dismissal if they disobeyed.

Mr David Nicholson, chairman of BA, told the nationalized industries committee yesterday: "It is most unsatisfactory that Europe should buy 85 per cent of its aircraft from America. That is why we are cooperating happily with Air France and Lufthansa."

Asked about the benefits arising from the merger of BEA and BOAC into British Airways, Mr Nicholson said: "We have found that our marketing penetration and the strength of our worldwide selling effort has been increased by the integration of the whole of the sales side, and we are confident that we are achieving a much better marketing effort for less than we would have been spending in advertising and promotion."

ECGD cover for Midlands up 40 pc to £1,000m

By Clifford Webb

Midland companies are making record use of the Export Credits Guarantee Department. In the year ended March 31, the department provided risk cover for £1,000m worth of exports—a 40 per cent increase on the previous year.

Announcing this yesterday Mr Frank Wilmut, ECGD Midlands region director, said this probably represented a true increase of 20 per cent, after allowing for inflation. Demand for the department's services was still rising, and last month alone accounted for £112m.

He said the motor, pottery and construction equipment industries were doing particularly well overseas. The fastest growing market was the Middle East.

Chrysler Australia go-ahead for Japanese

Tokyo, May 20.—Toyota Motor Co and Nissan Motor Co have reached broad agreement with the Australian government on the use of idle Chrysler Australia facilities for a joint engine production plant. But Toyota said many difficult problems remain to be resolved before going ahead with the project.

Beacon Broadcasting finds capital to meet deadline

Beacon Broadcasting, the troubled commercial radio consortium for Wolverhampton, has been able to resolve its financial difficulties, Mr Jay Oliver, managing director said yesterday that the consortium had arranged adequate funds to go ahead. It now hopes to meet the Government's deadline to commence broadcasting by the end of the year.

Beacon, initially formed by the Midlands News Association group, failed to raise the £450,000 minimum starting capital by the expiry date of April 30. Last-minute talks were held with a number of prospective investors, but by the end of last week the consortium was still £10,000 short of its target.

There was no other contender for the Wolverhampton radio contract and a failure by the Beacon consortium could have had serious implications for the rest of the proposed commercial radio network.

When the Government authorized a chain of 19 independent radio stations last summer (a reduction from the 60 envisaged under the Conservatives in the original scheme) it was on condition that all would be on the air by target of this week. Failure by any of the existing contractors at this stage could mean a further overall reduction as there would be no time for replacements to be appointed.

Size is important both to attract national advertisers who are reluctant to invest in a patchy geographical spread and to the independent radio news service operated for all stations by the London Broadcasting Company.

Plymouth Sound, the eleventh (and smallest so far) of the stations, commenced broadcasting this week. No firm dates have been fixed for the remainder.

The Independent Broadcasting Authority says it still expects all the stations to meet the year-end deadline. However, it may yet have to accept that some of the more recently appointed consortia who have had less than a year of preparation may need an extension of time.

TV revenue rising

While commercial radio gets off to a shaky start, advertisement revenue earned by the independent television companies continues to beat the gloomy predictions expressed earlier this year. Latest figures issued by the Independent Television Companies' Association show that net revenue for April was more than 23 per cent higher than the same month a year ago. At £15,631,547 it compares with £12,625,728 earned in April 1974.

New link in Europe

Another European agency, Moussault BV, has joined the Charles Barber ABH International partnership. Moussault has offices in Holland and Belgium and ranks seventh among all agencies in Holland. Its entry brings coverage for the ABH partnership to six countries and combined billings to over £130m.

Unique reception

International advertisers and advertising agencies are getting together this week in London at a unique meeting between the International Union of Advertisers Associations and the European Association of Advertising Agencies.

Patricia Tisdall

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Patricia Tisdall

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Significant considerations critical to Chrysler solution

From Mr G. Llywelyn Jones

Sir, Your leader in last Saturday's issue framed clearly some negative aspects of the Chrysler dispute at the Stoke plant, but there are other significant considerations which are critical to a solution:

1. As you recognized, it is unlikely that a group of over 4,000 workers would remain "adamant" to continue the strike unless they felt "a genuine sense of grievance".

There can be little doubt that the inferiority in pay of £9 relative to other car workers—particularly in Coventry—constitutes such a "genuine" grievance in the minds of the Stoke workers.

The determination of the workers to go on striking for the removal of this grievance even in face of a direct or implied threat from Detroit to withdraw from the United Kingdom—demonstrates depths of cohesiveness, loyalty and courage which could work miracles if they could be harnessed to overcome the current problems of the company.

2. The proposals for a comprehensive system of participation put forward by the Chrysler management constitute probably the boldest and most imaginative attempt yet made to solve industrial relations problems in the car industry.

3. The fact that those proposals were made at a time of acute conflict and uncertainty very likely raised suspicion, however unfounded, that they were intended as a "brainwashing" ploy to make it easier for management to manipulate the situation in favour of the company.

4. Wide experience indicates that participative patterns and procedures cannot be "enforced" on an organisation.

If participation is to work, it requires training in depth, both for management at all levels and for workpeople, in the skills necessary to implement and practice it effectively.

It is only through such a training exercise that a climate of attitudes can be established in which the basic trust essential to a participative system can begin to grow.

No system of negotiations, however sophisticated, can on its own establish such a climate. 5. Experience also indicates that if an effective system of participation can be initiated, in which management and workpeople are genuinely involved together to solve current problems, then the demand for an immediate increase of £8 and later the increase of £7 could probably be met without adding anything to the unit costs of production at the Stoke plant.

The Chrysler crisis is not a domestic issue. It gathers together all the problems that have tormented the car industry for so long, as well as more recent problems from the market.

If participation at Stoke can be made to work, it could well point the way through improved productivity and reduction of unit costs to the solution of many of the problems which currently bedevil not only Chrysler and the car industry, but the whole of the national economy.

Yours truly,
G. LLYWELYN JONES,
Chairman,
Applied Management Limited,
Bank House,
1 Belvedere Grove,
Wimbledon Common,
London, SW19.

Distortions in public sector housing and borrowing

From Mr Bernard Kilroy

Sir, The undoubted distortions in public sector housing have been exaggerated and those in the private sector ignored by Mr Andrew Tait, Director of the National House Building Council (your report, May 16).

Mr Tait implies that any growing public sector borrowing requirements is bad in itself instead of specifying which aspect gives most cause for anxiety.

If it is the money supply then one needs to remember recent trends. The growth in local authority housing debt was 57 per cent between 1970 and 1975 (as against, not real prices).

This needs to be contrasted over the same period with a growth in building society mortgages outstanding of 107 per cent and a growth of well over 400 per cent in advances by United Kingdom banks in property and construction.

If it is the revenue cost of funding this housing debt, then one needs to be reminded that the growing anomalies in rents, subsidies and the rate of interest have been amply acknowledged lately by defenders of public sector housing themselves.

Yet on subsidies in the private sector Mr Tait omits to mention that the Exchequer's inability to owner-occupiers is

four times the apparent subsidy on each new house because only one in four fresh mortgages are on new houses, and tax relief is given on every mortgage.

Mr Tait wishes not only to preserve this inefficient and inequitable system of subsidies which cost more than council housing subsidies, not only to oppose the reintroduction of Schedule "A" (whose rationale was never challenged by the Royal Commission on Taxation, 1955), but to add to this yet another special subsidy of £1,000 for certain buyers.

At a time when housing finance is in such evident trouble in both private and public sectors, and also when the DoE is undertaking a fundamental review of housing finance, one must plead for a cooler and broader appraisal from any national organisation involved with housing or construction.

For too long we have isolated housing finance from much bigger issues of credit, taxation and incomes policies and, therefore, from its contribution to inflation.

Yours faithfully,
BERNARD KILROY,
104 Princes House,
Kensington Park Road,
London, W11,
May 17.

Cash-flow and menace of s/c debt payment

From Professor P. B. Fox

Sir, Since May 22, 1973 you published a letter on the above subject, the been further intensification of the cash-flow war to the that some firms now pay only on issue of a s/c.

This has brought net balance on one, but has increased cost of debt collection exacerbating the cash-flow problem in business as a whole.

Recently I received a threatening legal process from a large company; do not name (although I be fully entitled to do respect of an invoice I had never received).

The photocopy of this invoice showed it to be in being addressed to the name and the wrong a to be for an amount which the firm now agree) was owed, and the invoice raised because a proceeding to VAT and insure been followed which was inapplicable to private individuals.

When I complained, I was told to accept the fast assumptions of business such procedures were not and that although as individual one might wish to a more honourable to debt settlement of impracticable.

My reply is that the national code of business has served the merchant munificently well for a whereas the current attitudes have served a decade.

I shall continue to in firms with whom I do behave in the honourable manner that has stood the time, and I hope that will do likewise.

Yours faithfully,
PETER FELLETT,
Department of Engineering Cybernetics,
Reading University,
3 Earley Gate, Whiteknights,
Reading, Berkshire,
May 16.

Anti-market twisted think

From Mr Ronald E. Rushen

Sir, The Times reports Christopher Fraser-Smith, an anti-marketeer, is claiming that some firms are what he calls irresponsible warning their staffs' their view, withdrawal of EEC could lead to increased redundancies. Like so many marketeers, Mr Fraser-Smith suggests, got his reason side down.

Since managements panies are obviously in position than the majority of their employees to likely effects of withdrawal of their own operations, it is both irresponsible dereliction of their duty failed to tell their work they saw the position warn them accordingly firms deserve congrat no abuse.

Yours faithfully,
RONALD E. RUSHEN,
40 Nairn Road,
Canford Cliffs,
Poole,
Dorset,
May 17.

ITALSIDER IN 1974

The Annual General Meeting of ITALSIDER Shareholders, held at the company's head office at Via Corsica 4, Genoa, on 29th April under the chairmanship of Mr. Enrico Redaelli Spreafico, unanimously approved the Reports submitted by the Board of Directors and the Committee of Auditors, the Balance Sheet and the Profit and Loss Account ending on December 31st, 1974.

The Report included the following items of information: steel output was 10,965,000 tonnes, 46% of Italy's total production; turnover was L.1,770,300 million; the number employed at December 31st was 52,456. Continuing with its modernization of plant, ITALSIDER has almost doubled the size of its iron and steel complex at Taranto, whose annual capacity is now 10.5m tonnes of steel, as well as improving productive structures in all its other factories.

Following L.160.000m provision for depreciation, 1974 ended with a profit of L.32,800m which—after deduction of a contribution to the legal reserve fund—was distributed partly in the form of a return on capital at the rate of 6% of the nominal value of shares and partly as a transfer to a dividend equalization fund.

The dividend will be paid with effect from May 20th, 1975. The Report also stated that while the demand for iron and steel products in Italy was very buoyant from January to June, 1974, it then fell more sharply than in other industrial sectors, in a general situation increasingly dominated by rising costs.

To counteract these problems, the company made special efforts in export markets: in the last quarter of the year, it succeeded in increasing the number of foreign orders for rolled steel four-fold compared with the average during the first six months.

Surveying the prospects for 1975, the Board's Report said that there has been a continuing downward trend in demand in all world markets during the first few months of the current year, creating a highly competitive situation that will adversely affect both quantity and prices.

Throughout the world the steel industry has been forced to apply the brakes. Even ITALSIDER has had to scale down its plans, despite the marked growth in its exports. The company is now wholeheartedly committed to containing the consequences that could ensue from these particularly difficult times, confident in the knowledge that it can rely on its sound structure and the active support of those it employs.

OZALID PRELIMINARY RESULTS

	1974	1973
Group Turnover	£79,755,000	£83,100,000
Turnover Arising Outside U.K. (including U.K. Export)	£46,495,000	£35,000,000
Group Net Profit Before Taxation	£8,717,000	£7,000,000
Profit After Taxation	£8,942,000	£7,361,000
Earnings Per Share	£4,302,000	£3,711,000
	17.3p	15.9p

Further substantial increase in Turnover and Profits in 1974

Mr N. J. Kilby, in announcing the above results, points to the further substantial increase in turnover and profits achieved by the Group during 1974, despite the adverse economic climate prevailing. This was due to a considerable degree to the continued expansion of overseas trade; exports from the U.K. also showed a further marked increase.

In the home market, despite adverse factors such as the three-day working week period and shortages of raw materials, production and turnover held up well.

The early months of 1975 have continued to present uncertain and difficult trading conditions and it is recognised that the year will prove to be a testing time.

Dividend

The Directors propose to recommend payment of a final dividend at the rate of 3.13p per 25p Ordinary share and this, together with the interim dividend of 2.17p per share paid in January, will give a total of 5.30p per share for the year, compared with 4.89p per share in 1973. This is the maximum increase permissible under present restrictions. The final dividend will be payable on 18th July 1975 to those on the Register of Ordinary Shareholders at 20th June 1975.

Annual General Meeting

The dispute in the printing industry has delayed the printing of the Report and Accounts. This will be posted to shareholders as soon as possible. The Annual General Meeting will be held at the Company's offices at Langston Road, Loughton, Essex, at 12 noon on Thursday, 17th July 1975.

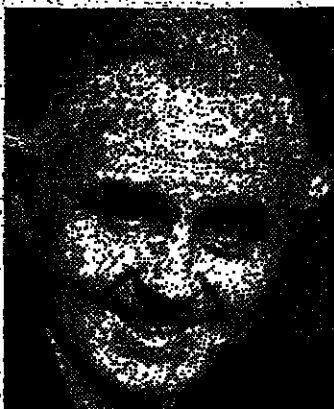
OZALID GROUP HOLDINGS LIMITED
Loughton, Essex.

Registrars: Lloyds Bank Limited, The Causeway, Goring-by-Sea, Worthing, West Sussex BN12 6DA.

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

Too early yet to count on a revival from Woolworth

so much, apparently, is to do better than the first quarter figures. But a sales third is gratifying given the traditional pattern of the company's performance. The Budget's prediction of that, on internal figures, is attributable to a growth.



Mr. Bill Barlow, chairman and chief executive of Ransome Hoffman Pollard, is determined to prove that profits can be maintained.

Woolworth's first quarter, to the end of April, is a glorious period, but the Budget's prediction of that, on internal figures, is attributable to a growth. The fall in margins seen in the first quarter of last year, to have been the worst as cost pressures are not, although the loss of a percentage point to 4.1 per cent, is a significant setback. The fall in margins seen in the first quarter of last year, to have been the worst as cost pressures are not, although the loss of a percentage point to 4.1 per cent, is a significant setback.

shortfall by United Kingdom companies.

A funding operation was not altogether expected, given that ER is over the hump of its capital investment programme and cash acquisitions have been financed. However, in the wake of three-day week shortages, stock values ran up from £23.5m to £41m last year and hence the £18m rise in total group borrowing. Even so, that probably left borrowings at around two-thirds of shareholders funds, and there is an element of longer-term gearing behind the rights issue. Every Ransome is making no forecast for this year but overseas profits (£6.6m at the trading level last year) should hold up reasonably well and at least any reduced activity elsewhere should help the current stock run-down to release cash and interest charges. At this stage the rights issue premium is 22.4p and the rights worth 11.1p a share on the ordinary.

Quarterly Interim Results
1974/75 (1973/74)
Capitalization £47.8m
Sales £103.5m (£89.2m)
Pre-tax profits £12.35m (£12.85m)
Earnings per share 10.33p (10.84p)
Dividend gross 4.88p (4.33p)

Coalite Second half strength

Balls of Coalite and Chemical had run the shares up from 18p to 22p ahead of the figures, and when they emerged a good £1.5m better than most expectations the price gained a further 2p to 24p. That adds up to a gain of a third in less than a week and there could now be some profit-taking. But with the shares still selling at only six times earnings, long-term holders ought not to be too discouraged.

The strong first half now only looks to have been a prelude

to an exceptional second half, when profits of £5.84m comfortably surpassed those of any previous full year. With demand sustained at high levels and the benefits of substantial price increases feeding through fully, margins moved ahead from 7.1 per cent in the first half to 21.3 per cent in the second.

Admittedly, the comparable period in the previous year, when profits were £2.05m, had to cope with restricted throughput at the carbonizing plants because of the miners' dispute, but the dispute had the effect of running stocks down to low levels, in turn cutting working capital needs and leaving the group at the start of last year with a net cash position. How this worked through last year is apparent from the £311,000 of interest receivable, far enough above the £93,000 at the half-way stage, to suggest that the balance-sheet remains as strong as ever, with no reason as yet to expect any marked deterioration in the trading outlook this year. The drawback is the meagre yield of 3.9 per cent.

Final: 1974/75 (1973/74)
Capitalization £27.8m
Sales £49.3m (£30.6m)
Pre-tax profits £9.60m (£2.84m)
Earnings per share 3.97p (1.17p)
Dividend gross 0.93p (0.82)

Ozalid The problem areas

North American and Australian economic downturns soured the second half at Ozalid, the reprographic paper company. Nevertheless, last year's overseas sales accounted for just over 50 per cent of the total.

Overall, sales gained 26.4 per cent, but the growth in the second half against the same period last year was only 11.9 per cent. Moreover, overseas sales growth was only around 5 per cent in the second half, against 85 per cent in the first six months.

Profit rose by 21.5 per cent last year to £8.94m, so Ozalid's margins remained well under control. This year may be more difficult. Ozalid will be lucky to maintain profits partly because it does not expect any upswing in the United States to come until the third quarter. On this sort of view the shares dipped 1p yesterday to 170p, where they are yielding 4.7 per cent but on an historic p/e ratio of just under 10. There is no reason to chase the price, despite Ozalid's high overseas content, until the picture in those difficult territories becomes clearer.

Final: 1974 (1973)
Capitalization £45.2m
Sales £79.8m (£53.1m)
Pre-tax profits £8.94m (£7.36m)
Earnings per share 17.3p (15.9p)
Dividend gross 6.06p (7.16p)

Ready and the its issue

Ready combined the element of its proposed rights issue yesterday year-end results, showing around £1.5m above expectations. The outcome is a rise to 93p in the share price, profits benefited by 10 last year from the first inclusion of associates, but a important was a near aim in overseas trading, virtually matched the

Market boost for Victory Insurance

C. Baker, chairman of Victory Insurance, told the meeting that the company's plans, being predicated by the fall in share values last year, share prices gave the company a boost when the capital increased. But by the end of this year investment had recovered to the level of adding £2m to net free company, a specialist in reinsurance, is 85 per cent by Legal & General.

Midland Ind 54pc up

Last year's record profit of £625,000 had been followed at Midland Industries by a 54 per cent advance to £410,000 before

tax for the half-year to March 31. Turnover at this Wolverhampton-based engineering and ironfoundry group rose from £43.7m to £54.2m. Further progress is forecast for the second half. The interim dividend is 0.62p gross, against 0.5p.

\$75m for Occidental

Occidental Petroleum Corporation has announced the public offering of \$75m of 11 per cent notes due in 1982. The company will use \$46m of the net proceeds to reduce its medium-term bank indebtedness, and the balance will be added to general corporate funds.

Company law: bringing the rights of workers in from the cold

David Tweedie

Reform of company law is part of the responsibility of Mr. Benn, as Secretary of State for Industry, may be about to trespass in these regions and follow the example of his distinguished predecessors in changing outdated company laws.

Company lawyers honour an early predecessor, Huskisson, President of the Board of Trade in 1825, for his repeal of the outdated restrictions imposed on joint stock companies by the South Sea Bubble Act. An even more illustrious incumbent of the office was W. E. Gladstone, the father of modern company law reform. Gladstone's Companies Act 1844 was an important step towards the modern company as now constituted. There is clearly scope for Mr. Benn's considerable talents in this field of law reform for the law is in many respects has remained a mirror of 19th century laissez-faire capitalism.

Modern company law fails to recognize the contributions that workers, by their talents and efforts, make to the success of their corporate employer. The Companies Act 1948-67 specifies with great particularity the obligations of the directors and shareholders one to the other. The workers who are not members of the company, are outside the bounds of this legal protection. The complaint is that the law has failed to march

up to the temper of the times, and in particular has been unable to define the standing of employees, and their rights to participation and information, as regards their corporate employer. Recent proposals for reform including those of the late Conservative administration, have been more concerned with correcting abuses in the existing legal structure and ensuring equality of treatment between shareholders; as by restricting practices such as warehousing or inside dealing.

Peter Walker's 1973 White Paper was entitled *Company Law Reform*. The subsequent Companies Bill 1973 set out to cure many such abuses, eg, by protecting minority interests through suitable amendments to Section 210 Companies Act 1948 in accordance with the Jenkins recommendations. The emphasis throughout towards the investor and his rights is shown by the fact that the legal duties owed to shareholders or to lines on page 20. Attempts have also been made to encourage worker members of the company through their holding a direct stake in the equity capital. The concept of share ownership is sound, but as not all workers wish to hold such shares the problem remains.

An attempt to redress this balance can be discerned in the

Industry Bill. Clauses 28 and 29 give a pointer to the Secretary of State's thoughts. The duty to disclose information to trade unions in industries that are "important to the economy of the United Kingdom" will give to the employees of such industries a right to management information greater than that conferred by the law on the shareholders.

The company lawyers have failed to fill the legal vacuum and give the employee a status in the business enterprise for which he works apart from those common law and statutory rights already protected by the law of contract and tort (particularly personal injury and redundancy). This new attempt to reform the law deserves wider recognition. Yet company law reform moves slowly. The law follows the social pressures of the society in which it is enforced, so perhaps the vacuum is not surprising.

The critical importance of combinations of workers in trade unions have in the modern United Kingdom economy served to underline the need for the law to bring in the trade unions as participants in the legal person that is recognized by the law as a limited company. The timidity on the part of the law to recognize such

trade unions is well exemplified by the fact that they are specifically forbidden by the Companies Act 1948 from registering with limited liability as a company (Section 459(9)). This the law recognizes that the objects of the members (greater profits and higher investment) are distinct from the functions of the workers.

The recent discussion paper *Industrial Democracy* prepared by the Northern Ireland Office in worker participation in Harland & Wolff recognizes the importance of United Kingdom company law. The paper plainly admits: "There are certain legal problems. The general train of thought which underlies company law was settled long ago before worker participation was thought of. The Government intends in due course to make changes in the law; but that will take time. So the first priority is to discuss what can be done now." Events at British Leyland only reinforce these views.

Other jurisdictions have tackled the question. Thus in West Germany, works councils or workers' councils, have evolved. In the east, Europe in theory business enterprises are directed by such councils. English law must now be changed to recognize that the company is a legal person: a corporation, standing, like a tripod, on three legs; the members, who subscribe the capital; the directors, who supply the management; and the workers, who give their labour. The

solution need not be sought abroad. The law of England in its infinite flexibility can supply the answer by applying the principles of equity and trust-law which have been evolved by the Courts of Chancery over the centuries.

An equity lawyer who is asked to define the rights of workers to participate with their employers in the joint enterprise, would apply his mind to the law of trusts. A trustee, at law, is a person who holds the legal estate in property of which the beneficial ownership is vested in others. The extension of this principle to the Companies Act 1948-67 would seem to give the necessary legal framework whereon the rights of workers to have some say at law in the fortunes of their employer can be based. This would involve amendments to the Companies Acts to provide for the appointment of a trustee for the workers to sit at board meetings, in companies of a sufficient size, and participate on behalf of their beneficiaries in the decisions to be reached at such meetings.

Clear guidelines will, of course, be needed, spelling out the duties of the new board. If Mr. Benn cares to pursue this line of thinking by persuading Mr. Shore to provide in the Companies Acts for the appointment of such worker trustees his name, may, after all, be known to future historians of company law as one with Huskisson and Gladstone.

A political flare-up over Canada's oil

Calls for an increase in the price of crude, which is pegged at well below the world level, are causing controversy

Canada's Prime Minister, Pierre Trudeau, who is familiar to the outside world for his informal image and frequent interventions on the international scene, is having to deal with a problem which is causing serious friction in his own country. It is the very unglamorous issue of the price of oil in Canada.

Essentially an economic matter, it has decided political overtones, involving the always delicate question of Federal-Provincial relations and the political destiny of more than one Canadian leader.

The issue also has more distant echoes in the context of Canada's relations with the United States, which have been bedevilled for some time past. The issue has become more urgent since the collapse of a conference of first ministers held a month ago when Mr. Trudeau and the 10 provincial premiers failed to agree on the oil price to be effective in Canada after July 1.

Under a Federal-Provincial agreement worked out in the emergency crisis months of early 1974, the price of crude oil is pegged at \$6.50 (about £3 a barrel) until June 30. Thereafter the world price, until June 30, export levies on deliveries to the United States are used to subsidize imports of Venezuelan and Middle East oil into Quebec and the Atlantic Provinces, which are beyond the current reach of the pipeline from Alberta, the main producing province. (An extension of the line from southern Ontario to Montreal is now being planned.)

The practical effect for Canadians of this experiment in insulating an entire nation from the vagaries of the world oil market, is that they can buy their petrol at reasonably uniform rates ranging as low as 60 cents a gallon.

However, Alberta is not satisfied with the \$6.50 level. Alberta argues, among other things, that it does not provide enough incentive for oil companies to explore for more oil to bolster the province's fast dwindling proven reserves.

At the first ministers' conference, Alberta's premier, Mr. Lougheed, was supported by Mr. Trudeau in his call for a price increase, though neither mentioned a specific figure. It is believed Alberta would like an increase of at least \$2 a barrel. Most of the other pro-

vinces, led by heavily-industrialized Ontario, the major consumer, are decidedly more moderate in their approach. While arguing for an increase, he did so in sweetly reasonable terms, as though recognizing the potential divisiveness of the issue nationally.

Mr. Trudeau pledged afterwards that the search for a compromise would continue in bilateral discussions between federal ministers, including himself, and their provincial counterparts.

So far there has been no very clear indication that these talks are bearing fruit, and unless the Prime Minister can work some kind of magic on the provincial premiers, the price of oil in Canada after June 30, will have to be fixed arbitrarily at the price of oil in the United States.

The Government will have the power to do this under the Petroleum Administration Act recently passed by the Commons.

The economics of the situation have at times seemed secondary to politics. For example, the Conservative Government in Ontario takes an avowedly elected mandate this year, which by all accounts is in real danger of losing.

It is probable that, for political return, Premier William Davis will not make a finer speech in the campaign—whenver it comes—than he has made at the nationally-televised first ministers' meeting, adamantly opposing any boost in the price Ontarians have to pay for oil.

The people of Ontario would not support an increase, he declared stoutly. "They recognize that raising costs, fuelling inflation, eroding job opportunities—all inherent in permitting energy prices to rise—is not the priority of today. This is not the task to which the people of Ontario should be devoting their attention."

On the other hand, Premier Lougheed, equipped with a fresh mandate after leading his Alberta Conservative Party to

a smashing reelection victory a month earlier, struck many observers as decidedly more moderate in his approach. While arguing for an increase, he did so in sweetly reasonable terms, as though recognizing the potential divisiveness of the issue nationally.

Observers concluded that the 46-year-old premier, despite numerous protestations to the contrary, just may have notions of running for the national Conservative leadership being vacated late this year or early next by opposition leader, Mr. Robert Stanfield.

Caught in the middle of the political infighting are the major oil companies. They insist that a higher price is necessary to provide them with

the wherewithal to expand their drilling operations. But they would like some assurance that that in fact is what the extra money will be used for.

Of the \$1,800m generated by the last \$2.70 increase, just over a year ago, only about 5 per cent or \$100m went to the companies. Of the rest, \$1,000m went to the producing provinces, Alberta and Saskatchewan, and \$600m to the federal treasury.

Canada badly needs additional proven reserves right now. For years, in the mistaken belief that its oil wealth was practically unlimited, it exported huge quantities to the United States. Last year, the National Energy Board brought Canadians to their

senses with a report predicting that without additional supplies, the country will lose its self-sufficiency in oil by 1983. Meanwhile, the government has taken a decision, much resented in the United States and by congressmen in Washington representing the mid-west, where industry has become heavily dependent on Canadian oil, to phase out exports over an eight-year period.

Recently, the export problem has taken a paradoxical twist. Under the Government's phase-down timetable, exports at this point are supposed to be 800,000 barrels a day—compared to 900,000 at the end of last year. But because of the recession in the United States, general belt-tightening there and competition from abroad, Canada's exports have been running at only about 500,000 barrels daily.

The result could be a deficit approaching \$500m this year in the fund that the government uses to subsidize oil imports.

To try to restore its position in the American market, Canada has now cut its export tax.

John Best

Continued improvement from RHP

As I forecast in my Chairman's report for last year and at the Annual General Meeting in January the company's performance has continued to improve despite the general economic climate.

The continued improvement in earnings is derived from benefits we are obtaining from investment and reorganisation carried out in recent years. We have had the support of the Price Commission in regard to UK prices which has assisted us to generate profits needed to finance our capital investment programme to which we continue to attach the greatest importance.

Reflecting the world tendency to recession we have had some cutbacks in demand both from home and abroad. These have been absorbed without disruption and following a period of excess ordering last year our outstanding order book has been slimmed down to a more realistic basis. We now have some areas of under-utilisation of capacity, but in general forward order cover and new orders being received week by week provide us with adequate work for continued profitable operation of the company.

During the last six months we have shown that the profit earning capacity of RHP is not unduly vulnerable to the trade cycles of the UK automotive industry. Whilst our automotive business remains substantial and desirable,

we have developed a policy of ensuring that the capacity devoted to this sector is governed by the generation of a reasonable profit rather than pure volume. Our ability to generate profits is principally dependent upon a much wider spectrum of engineering activities and bearing replacement business in 93 countries.

Despite the severe rate of inflation we continue to maintain tight control on liquidity, and borrowings to the end of the half year were virtually unchanged from those of the beginning of the year.

The second half year includes the holiday period, which must be taken into account when forecasting, but apart from this we expect to maintain earnings in the remainder of the year.

The Directors have decided to increase the interim dividend on the ordinary shares of the company by 12½% and declared a net interim dividend of 1.19p per share. This dividend amounting to £222,303 (1974 £187,032) will be payable on the 17th July 1975 to shareholders on the Register at close of business on the 20th June 1975. It is the Board's intention to increase the final dividend so that the total dividends for the year are increased by the maximum of 12½% permitted under the current legislation.

G.W. BARLOW
Chairman

Unaudited results of the group for the 26 weeks to 28th March 1975	26 weeks to 28th March 1975	26 weeks to 29th March 1974	52 weeks to 27th Sept. 1974
	£000	£000	£000
Sales (outside the group)	31,083	26,671	52,110
Profit before charging interest	3,643	1,881	4,257
Less: Interest payable			
Bank and other short term borrowings	201	479	784
5% Convertible Loan Stock	316	345	862
	517	824	1,446
Profit before tax and extraordinary items	3,126	1,057	2,811
Taxation	1,674	540	1,421
Profit before extraordinary items	1,452	517	1,390
Add: Extraordinary items (net of tax)	55	307	362
	1,507	824	1,752
Less: Preference Dividends	22	22	44
Profit attributable to Ordinary Shareholders	1,485	802	1,708
Earnings per share:			
Basic	7.7p	2.9p	7.9p
Fully diluted	6.0p	2.5p	6.3p

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Business Diary: Clerical errors • All's well that ends Bell's

temps, the burst of union strikes, were yesterday a chance of sorts to back. The opportunity with the publication of a "of temping statistics" as perceived by Federation of Personnel of Great Britain, a employment agents' association.

agents, whose business fering from trade union day at six simultaneous in towns from Glasgow to Southampton. The surpluses to the agencies "the myth that the 'temp' is a dolly and largely replaces this of a girl with a new type, that of working in her thirties unable willing to do a permanent



Murray, Marks and Kendall: with reference to my letter of the 15th.

London the meeting was led by Bernard Marks, nan of the federation, of the family business, the Marks Bureau, as well as federation's secretary, id Cropper. Her point was to have been thined by the presence of such working mothers, ugh as is sometimes the with temps, one of them not turn up. The lady who was Brenda Fyson, who e merits the word "cage" that Marks refers applied to her, for she he introduces us to some above-average clientele. e avenge-haired Mrs. Fyson

lives in Bellingham, west London, and works only when her two children, a boy of eight and a girl of 10, are not at home all day on school holidays. She said that all the temps she

knew were just as efficient as permanent staff. An appendix to the survey contains the remarks of other temps, mostly office workers, such as "Female, single, aged

18, secretary, Hounslow, who says: "I get bored so quickly so I like to keep changing jobs." She smuggles up in the appendix to Male, single, aged 21, temp London, who says he temp "because of the different birds' nests." Let's hope they get together one day, that the Hounslow lass may become a more marketable stereotype.

A sign that times are changing, apart from the agents' presentation of married women's working as A Good Thing, comes from Wike, aged 23, clerk, Sheffield, who says: "I will shortly be going to sea with my husband who is in the Merchant Navy."

The survey is part of a statistical battering ram the agents are fashioning to break down the doors of Congress House. Marks and Cropper are having trouble securing audiences of Len Murray, TUC general secretary, Geoffrey Drain, general council member and Nalco general secretary, and Bill Kendall of the Civil and Public Servants' Association. These are the men who could ease the difficulty of placing temps in local and central government offices.

So far the impact of this battering ram has been as the tapping of a toffee hammer. Marks argues that he is just as much against employers' use of temps as permanent staff as are the unions and that, abroad, collective bargaining takes place between agents and union. But the union leaders do not seem to be listening.

"The 'Temporary', a national survey of attitudes, comments and regional statistics. Free from the Federation of Personnel Services of Great Britain.

Labour's sale

Possibly with a sigh of relief, the Labour Party has decided to sever links with the Canning Town Glass Works, episodes in whose history are being investigated by the Department of Trade. The party's finance committee announced yesterday that it was selling the holding of 50,000 shares it had been given by Lord Brayley, the former chairman of Canning Town, who resigned as Under-Secretary of State for the Army last September.

After the takeover of Canning Town by Arthur Bell, the Perth-based whisky distillers, the Labour Party will be selling Bell shares. Bell's offer became unconditional on April 1 and so far 94 per cent of shareholders have accepted. Section 209 of the Companies Act is now being implemented, enabling Bell compulsorily to acquire the outstanding equity. But possibly by accident rather than design, the delay in accepting has worked to the party's advantage. Not only was the cash alternative a mere 87p a share, but market conditions have improved sufficiently so that about £17,000 will flow into the coffers, if its Bell holding can now be sold for the present 103p.

FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Hardy Furnishers stage big rally in second half and lift dividend

By David Mott

Recovering most of its first-half decline over the final six months Hardy (Furnishers) ended the 52 weeks to January 25 with taxable profits down by around 6 per cent to £2.56m.

The stock market took an agreeable view of the result and the ordinary shares closed 3p firmer at 37p and the "A" at 36p, advanced the same.

Second-half profits of £1.5m (£1.1m) compare with an initial slump from £1.5m to £1m.

The total profit comes from a turnover narrowly ahead at

£28.8m, and after an almost unchanged tax charge of £1.4m the "net" stands at £1.16m, against £1.32m. A final dividend of 2.56p lifts the total payment from 4.13p to 4.86p, covered 1.8 times.

The problems of this Newcastle-based retail store group, which has a nationwide network, originate from the first quarter when the hire-purchase restrictions, the three-day week and controls on margins all combined to depress profits substantially.

But as forecast at the halfway stage, the second half brought

a strong improvement in trading, and this, the company says, has continued into the current year.

Although the causes were in some ways exceptional, this is the second year running that the Hardy's profits have fallen, the best-ever figure of £3.26m coming in the period ended January, 1973. But in spite of last year's problems one of the strengths was the income from credit customers which at one point was reported to be well over 100 per cent of what was contractually due.

Automatic oil gets loan from energy department

A Slater, Walker Securities associate, Automatic Oil Tools, a Glasgow-based maker of metering equipment, is to get a £500,000 loan from the Department of Energy, which will be convertible into shares of the company.

Terms of the loan, which will be convertible into shares of the company, will be put before shareholders of AOT at an extraordinary meeting shortly. It is understood that under certain conditions the Government could end up with about a third of the company's equity.

Late last year Slater, Walker interests announced that they had accumulated just under 27 per cent of AOT of which 25.9

per cent was effectively owned by Slater, Walker Securities. The department's loan will be used to finance production of equipment for metering stations in the North Sea and at Meditteranean pipeline for which AOT has already gained a contract worth £2.8m.

In December AOT's chairman, reporting profits of £240,000 for the year to June 30, 1974, said that North Sea orders had been slow to materialize. Nevertheless, the company was geared up for expansion and confident that its market share would increase.

BICC first quarter slip

By Tony May

In spite of efforts to reduce borrowings, higher interest charges lowered earnings in the first quarter at BICC by 20 per cent at the attributable level. This excludes extraordinary items which were up slightly, Mr W. Fraser, chairman, told yesterday's annual meeting that the drop was

sharpened as the quarter passed. By other factors included higher interest charges, lower volume, and increasing inflation which has not yet come through to selling prices.

The group's short-term borrowings in the United Kingdom were £1.1m less than the peak reached in the middle of 1974.

R & G Cuthbert streamlines in hardware

Horticultural and hardware retailer, R & G Cuthbert reports its customary first-half loss for the six months to December 31, but, as Mr Clive Clague, chairman, says, a little can be deducted from this.

The loss before tax rose from £309,000 to £546,000 largely reflecting a rise in interest charges from £54,000 to £209,000.

On the hardware side the first fruits of a reorganization of interests, some of which are new, are beginning to be seen and as this part of the business assumes more significance it is hoped to reduce the disparity, between the two half years.

Last year's profit was a record £537,000 but Mr Clague does not hazard a forecast except to say that an early horticulture mail order season set new revenue records and a successful toe-hold has been gained in the Canadian market. Sales rose from £2.5m to £7.7m.

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THE INSTITUTE OF TAXATION

The Annual General Meeting of The Institute of Taxation was held in London yesterday. The President, Mr Desmond F. Airey, F.C.A., F.C.C.A., F.T.I.L., referred to the difficulty of giving adequate and speedy advice in the present climate of reorganization and rationalisation, due to the complicated and cumbersome charging and anti-avoidance legislation. In these days of more and more new taxes there were few among Revenue officials and taxation advisers who had a complete working knowledge of the whole tax system. Even specialisation could not be the full answer because most of our taxes were inter-linked and most practitioners throughout the country had to deal with a variety of tax matters and could not be spared for the luxury of specialisation.

If it became necessary for a new generation of practitioners to specialise the added recruitment to the profession would seriously detract from the availability of such persons to commerce and industry where they were equally needed, and this factor was one of the most understated costs of tax collection. It even more detailed legislation continued to be produced would this not lead to the situation where a breach of law would be generally acceptable or where new laws would have to be policed to an extent which could endanger our present concepts of freedom and justice?

Mr Airey referred to the fact that the Institute had 6,038 registered students, and he hoped that the new premises occupied since the end of 1974 would bring long-term benefits to the Institute.

ROYAL DUTCH PETROLEUM COMPANY

(N.V. Koninklijke Nederlandse Petroleum Maatschappij)

Established at The Hague, The Netherlands

FINAL DIVIDEND 1974

With reference to the announcement dated 16th May, 1975 regarding the FINAL DIVIDEND for the year 1974 on the shares of N.P.A.20 registered in the U.K. Section of the Amsterdam Register, Royal Dutch Petroleum Company announces that the rate of exchange fixed for the payment of the dividend is N.F. 5.525 = £1. The gross amount of the dividend will be 81-045p per share and the amount of the 25% Netherlands Dividend Tax will be 20-261p per share; the net amount payable will therefore be 60-784p per share.

21st May, 1975 ROYAL DUTCH PETROLEUM COMPANY

Fisons rely on overseas earnings this year

Fisons, the pharmaceutical and chemical group, expects overseas earnings to rise by 10 per cent to 70 per cent of the total this year, Mr George Burton, the chairman, told the shareholders' annual general meeting yesterday.

Mr Burton struck a note of general pessimism about the home market. Last year, he said, margins in the pharmaceutical sector had been squeezed in the United Kingdom and it was hoped that the Government would adopt a more objective attitude particularly because of its contribution to the balance of payments.

Investment possibilities were better overseas with inflation and price controls hindering at home. "It is impossible for industry to generate sufficient capital for investment at least in this country," he said. If the Industry Bill was enacted, it was unlikely to ensure the necessary criteria for investment at home.

At the end of last year only United States \$4.4m had been drawn from the United States \$50m multi-currency loan arranged in 1973, which provided the basis for further acquisitions.

Mr Burton said the board was in favour of Britain staying in the EEC. However, there was "some dreadful aberration" on the part of the electorate which resulted in a "No" vote in the Referendum, the company had already made its dispositions in Europe to ensure that it could still continue to trade beneficially in that area.

On the subject of the current year, Mr Burton said the results so far were encouraging, but he added: "It would be foolish to suppose that 1975 will be more difficult than 1974." However, the company had budgeted for a further profit growth this year.

British Enkalon expects loss in 1975

Azko subsidiary British Enkalon expects to follow its smaller profit last year with a loss in 1975, Col F. J. Davies, chairman, told yesterday. But he added that the company hopes to get out of the red in 1976.

The main reason for the financial downturn was the destruction of the Flixborough chemical plant, resulting in the import, at high cost, of caprolactam, the company's main raw material.

But he added that the worldwide recession in the man-made fibre industry, the high rates of inflation in the United Kingdom, and heavy imports of yarns, fabrics and garments at unduly low prices also affected profitability.

In the last few weeks the United States market had started to improve, but it will be some time before this happened in the United Kingdom, and probably not before the end of the year, Col Davies said.

The company is 62 per cent owned by Azko N.V. Last year attributable profit fell to £852,000 from £2,939m.

Although slower the pace slackened in the second half, Walter Runciman, the shipping, freight agency and insurance group, won a 64 per cent jump in pre-tax profits to £2.41m last year. Earnings rose from 14.6p to 22.9p a share and the 8.8p dividend rises from 7.71p to 8.68p.

The shares shot up 13p to 110p ahead of the results and closed there. A comparison of the two half years shows that following a first half in which profits were more than doubled to £1.1m, growth over the final period fell to 40 per cent.

The initial success was attributed to the shipping division with the deep-sea trades doing well and the shore-based business staging what was said to be a "remarkable recovery".

Record spurs Runciman shares

To reduce the gap with the final payment the interim dividend rises from 2.23p to 3.85p.

Croda Internat extends M-Y bid

Croda International still seems to be having difficulty in hoisting acceptance of its bid for Midland-Yorkshire Holdings to the magic 51 per cent mark, where it was unconditional.

Croda now says it is extending its offer to May 30, but in no circumstances will the group extend it after that.

Croda now has 48.96 per cent of the M-Y equity, leaving it just 68,788 shares short of victory. The group has 13p to 43.5p yesterday on renewed hopes that Croda will gain the day. Croda's own shares hardened to 69p. Croda offers 36p cash for every Midland share or seven of its own shares for every one in Midland.

Tenfold surge by Turnbull Scott

Much-improved profits (in fact to a fresh peak) are also reported by Turnbull Scott Shipping. After all charges including depreciation of £455,000 (£347,000) net profits for the year to January 31 have jumped from £46,000 to £463,000. Besides, there was a surplus on the disposal of ships of £2.7m, against £1.17m. The board are stepping up the total payment from 11.34p to 12.76p with a final of 6.79p.

The group carries on business as general traders, owning deep-sea trampships operating in all parts of the world.

Chamberlin leap

Iron manufacturer Chamberlin and Hill almost doubled their profits in the trading year to March 31, 1975. The pre-tax figure was £463,352 against £234,652 on turnover of £2.94m to £4.21m. Profits after all charges including tax was £227,254 against £114,805. The directors recommend a final dividend of 1.76p making 3.04p (2.75p) payable July 25.

Trust share-split

Stockholders Investment Trust plans to subdivide its 50p ordinary shares into units of 25p and then make a 100 per cent scrip issue. The subdivision and dealings will be effective on July 14.

Secombe Marshall

For the second year running bill broker Secombe Marshall & Campbell is making a scrip issue, this time of one-for-two. In the 12 months to April 30 profits after tax soared from £156,000 to £435,000 and the total dividend goes up from 18.9p to 21.27p. The profit is struck after a transfer to contingency reserve.

M. James jumps 54pc

After a 62 per cent interim advance, Maurice James Holdings wherein Greenwood & Bates, the group's main asset, has pushed up

Stock markets

Shares turn about in afternoon trading

The City's hopes that wage inflation may yet be brought under control were strengthened yesterday by warning words from both the Prime Minister and by Mr Len Murray, the TUC leader. Shares surged upwards again during the morning when the institutions were looking for lines of stock, and the jobbers could find no sellers. But the mood turned sharply in late afternoon, when rumours that today would bring publication of a second newspaper opinion poll, this one showing only lukewarm support for EEC membership, brought

"Shorts" were very quiet. After opening 1/16 of 1 point higher and moving ahead further, they eased back to close unchanged. The same pattern was found at the longer end, but there were occasional small losses of 1/16 point. The coupon rate on the "yearling" issue was 12 1/2 per cent.

The final stakeout reduced gains in leading stocks from double figures to, in many cases, a mere penny or so. Rats, finally 2p up at 32 1/2p, touched 33 1/2p at best, while Glaxo closing a net 5p higher at 410p, had seen 420p. Unilever, unchanged at 39 1/2p, were at 400p earlier.

Beckham, whose results are due today, moved sharply between 300p and a closing level of 295p, up 3p. The other major blue chip with results due is ICI, whose report on the first quarter trading comes tomorrow. Shares in ICI closed 3p up at 275p, after 278p, in good turnover.

Exports stocks to continue firm included EMI, 2p up at 192p (after 196p)—still hampered from the high hopes entertained for the new X-ray scanning machine. Metal Box (4p up at 300p) and Tube

Investments (4p higher at 22 1/2p).

Among building construction shares, it was those of companies with interests or business in the Arab world that attracted the buyers. Taylor Woodrow put on 12p to 31 1/2p and R. Costain 11p to 21 1/2p.

Other features included Furness Withy, 8p better at 214p after 217p, on a return of the rumours that a bid is coming. Another bid feature on the shipping pitch, Beardon Smith, also moved forward. Shares in Ever Ready responded to good results, and shrugged off the rights issue, to close 9p up at 93p.

Among consumer stocks, Marks & Spencer were 4p up at 24 1/2p, while Boots, 1p up at 27 1/2p, began to run out of the steam generated by last week's trading news. Debenhams, due to report this week, added 2p to 82p.

The market was agreeably surprised by the quarterly outcome at Woolworth, and the shares gained a couple of pence. J. Lyons had another good day at the price from 174p to 168p, a net 3p higher.

Substantial gains were chalked

up in the financials as these proved resistant to market's closing weakness. Clays, at 29 1/2p, and Sun Alliance, 15p to 48 1/2p, led insurance ahead. In properties, Ultramar, finally 4p up, found bid speculators closed off the top.

The final hour of trading was back from 48 1/2p only to return to 49 1/2p, back of United States Ultramar, finally 4p up, had seen 208p. Price

Shares in Carless Leonard shed 1p to 5 1/2p on profit-taking. Price has risen from 40p in the past few weeks. The market is optimistic of the results, exp June 9.

Down at 72p suffered trading results. Gold shares were neglected yesterday, news in platinum was lightened by a rise in Mattel. Barclays Equity turnover on 285.5m (21,638 bargain stocks yesterday, acc Exchange Telegraph: Woolworth, Shell, Chemical, Barclays GEC, Grand Met and dial Union.

Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies

Company	Ord div	Year	Pay date	Year's total	Prev year
Bar & Wallace (25p)	4.23	1974	18/7	4.23	4.19
Chamberlain & Hill (25p)	1.76	1974	25/7	3.04	2.73
Coalite & Cements (10p)	0.47	1974	1/8	0.90	0.82
R. & G. Cuthbert (10p)	0.54	1974	1/8	2.38	2.38
E. L. The Firm (65)	1.00	1974	12/6	—	57.5
Ever Ready (25p)	3.57	1974	8/7	4.87	4.33
Frank G. Gates (25p)	5.93	1974	8/7	5.93	5.75
Harwell Group (25p)	3.15	1974	9/7	6.9	6.9
Irv Trust Corp (25p)	4.8	1974	1/8	3.6	3.2
Maurice James (10p)	Nil	1974	1/8	0.89	0.89
Liner Concrete (10p)	0.36	1974	1/8	4.21	4.21
Muirhead (25p)	1.77	1974	1/8	8.06	7.16
Osella Group (25p)	4.82	1974	1/7	3.25	3.25
Ransome Hoitmann (25p)	1.83	1974	1/7	1.9	1.9
Walker Runciman (25p)	8.68	1974	1/7	8.68	8.68
Secombe Marshall (10p)	1.77	1974	1/7	11.27	11.27
Herman Smith (10p)	0.35	1974	16/6	0.94	0.94
Stockholders Inv (50p)	3.85	1974	14/7	—	8.2
Time Products (10p)	1.43	1974	—	1.9	1.68
Turnbull Scott (10p)	6.79	1974	—	12.76	11.34

* Until a share. † Adjusted for scrip. ‡ Increased to reduce disparity.

Matthew Hall

International Engineering Group

Highlights from the Statement of Sir Rupert Spier, Chairman.

- All time record Group order book.
- Profit before taxation in line with forecast. Total dividend for year increased to 8.06p per share, the maximum permissible.
- Substantial increase in Contracts in Oil, Chemical and Industrial Engineering should benefit future profits. □ Transoceanic upsurge in activities. □ Major breakthrough into UK oil and gas markets. □ £120M North Sea Contracts. □ Major contractor to N. Coal Board and well placed to participate in their planned expansion. □ Record new contracts and turnover in Australia. □ Expanded business and significantly improved results on Continent of Europe.
- Mechanical and Electrical Services have again performed very well and overcome adverse trading conditions. □ Increase in business with industrial customers. □ North Sea air conditioning, pipework, fire protection, and electrical contracts. □ A contracts for iron and steel industry. □ Growth pattern in Australia.
- Future Prospects: 1975 should be a very successful year but high proportion of work to be still in progress and profits thereon will not materialise in accounts until after 1

Comparative Figures	1974 £'000	1973 £'000	1972 £'000	1971 £'000
Turnover	70,109	56,348	32,107	29,41
Capital employed	6,688	5,699	4,198	3,81
Profits before tax	2,118	2,047	1,276	1,2
Profits after tax attributable to company	990	991	721	71
Dividend per share	8.062p	7.166p	6.825p	6.1

the Matthew Hall Group

Matthew Hall & Co. Ltd., Matthew Hall Mechanical Services Ltd., Matthew Hall Engineering Ltd., Halden Hall & Co. Ltd., Matthew Hall Group Services Ltd., George M. Silcock Ltd., Matthew Hall Orchest, Matthew Hall (Ry.) Ltd. (Australia), Matthew Hall Inc. (U.S.A.), Matthew Hall S.A. (France), Matthew Hall - C.T.P. Ltd., Matthew Hall Keyways Engineering S.V. (Holland), Matthew Hall Keyways Engineering N.V. (Belgium), Norcain Projects Ltd.

INTERIM STATEMENT

WOOLWORTH

Interim Report

Three months ended 30th April, 1975

Salient figures and comments from the unaudited statement of profit of the Company and its subsidiaries for the three months ended 30th April, 1975, with comparative figures for the previous financial year.

12 months ended 31st January 1975 £000's		3 months ended 30th April 1974 £000's	3 months ended 30th April 1975 £000's	% increase
461,697	Turnover (excluding V.A.T.)	91,774	122,087	33.0
33,421	Trading profit	5,106	5,503	7.8
30,649	Profit before taxation	4,673	4,998	6.9

Sales and profits have been better than expected, assisted by the high level of consumer spending prior to the introduction of the 25% rate of VAT on the 1st May. However, profits continue to be affected by the very heavy increases in wages and other expenses, together with the competitive pricing policy we are pursuing.

F. W. WOOLWORTH AND CO., LIMITED
Woolworth House, 252/254, Marylebone Road, London NW1 6JL

Business appointments

Successor to Courage chairman

Mr R. H. Courage is to relinquish his appointment as chairman of Courage on July 31, when he will also retire from the boards of Imperial Group and Courage. He will be succeeded by Mr R. O. Steel, vice-chairman of Courage and a director of Imperial Group.

Mr R. O. Steel, managing director of Courage, has been appointed a director of Imperial Group with effect from July 31.

Mr K. Fibbe joins the board of Royal Dutch Petroleum.

Mr David Bucks, a director of Samuel Montagu, is resigning with effect from June 30, to join the board of Hill Samuel.

Mr Hill Samuel, will be appointed to the board at the same time.

Mr Roy Blythen has been appointed to the newly-created position of deputy managing director of EMI Sound and Vision Equipment.

Mr D. G. Channon, a director of Witley, Faber & Dumas, has joined the board of Pension and Investment Consultants of Dublin.

Mr D. C. Bandy is appointed managing director and Mr A. R. Escolme and Mr R. A. Leach become assistant managing directors of Metropolitan Pensions Association.

Mr C. T. Barnes, Mr D. J. Duncan, Mr B. D. Gibb, Mr D. H. E. Hudson, Mr E. S. Poole and Mr J. A. Powell join the

board. Mr F. Grant continues as chairman of Metropolitan Pensions Association and as chief executive of the NPA Group. Mr J. C. Ansell, Mr G. Becker and Mr M. R. Howell are made directors of Employee Benefit Plans (International) Ltd.

Mr A. F. Evans and Mr J. B. Shellabear have joined the board of Portfolio International Investment Trust.

Mr Ian Taylor has joined Edward Bates & Co. prior to being appointed a senior executive of the French banking subsidiary, Banque Paribas SA.

Mr J. E. Brockwell has been appointed deputy managing director of Potterton International in addition to being financial director.

Mr William Geddes, head of the International satellite communications division of the external telecommunications executive of the Post Office, has been elected chairman of the board of government of the International Telecommunications Satellite Organization (Intelsat).

Mr Raymond Davidson has become a director of London & Continental Bankers.

Sir Archibald Ross has been made chairman of Datacube, the United Kingdom subsidiary of the computer division of the Swedish Scan-Scandinavian group.

Mr M. J. Allen and Mr M. L.

Hartley are joining the board of Woodside Gargers (Leeds).

Mr A. V. Taylor has been appointed a director of Rose For Grove.

Mr G. N. Stone has been appointed director of personnel management of the Central Electricity Generating Board from June 10.

Mr W. N. Swainson has been appointed director of Fletcher Scrivette Wile.

Mr S. Douglas Rae has been elected president of the National Association of Steel Stockholders.

Mr Ernest Barret becomes vice-president.

Mr J. C. Sanders has become a director of Giltspur Expo Industries.

Mr John Dyer is retiring as managing director of Pratt Padstons Plan on May 31 and will be succeeded by Mr C. D. Lock. Dyer will become a non-executive director.

Mr David Winterbottom has joined the board of What? M&H Furnishers and has been made managing director.

Mr K. T. Hothouse has been appointed finance director of ARA Industrial Products.

Mr John Williams becomes chairman of the Clothing Manufacturers' Federation.

Mr John Boddy has been elected chairman of the Coal Industry Society.

Appointments Vacant

GENERAL VACANCIES

A CAREER IN ADVERTISING

The Marketing Department of a leading newspaper group requires a man (21-25) to work within their advertising section. Further specialised training given if needed. Essential qualities desired are intelligence, energy and determination. A commercial background an advantage, although not absolutely necessary. Salary £2,300-£2,500.

Phone Mr. A. Mason

637 3787

PRIME APPOINTMENTS

DEAL WITH PEOPLE

As one of the larger British Employment Agencies, we have just started a new Agency in London, W.1, to find office jobs for people with ability. Such people are able and willing to work and their careers are being improved by many employers who are going to change this.

We want to recruit a well-educated man under 30 to interview and select suitable people for office jobs. He will be responsible for the recruitment of people who will be working in a variety of offices. He will be responsible for the recruitment of people who will be working in a variety of offices.

We offer on-the-job training, career progression, a salary in the range of £2,200-£2,500 p.a. (first year) and above all the opportunity to contribute to a cause in which you can find a sincere social commitment.

Ring 01-588 1053
ACCOUNTANCY PERSONNEL LTD.
63 Moorate, E.C.3

SWITZERLAND

French/Swiss Ski Resort

Secretary for school executive. English correspondence experience essential. Knowledge of French desirable. Please apply:

Chancellor,
American College of
Switzerland,
1801 Leyran,
Switzerland.

INVESTMENT ANALYST

MERCHANT BANKERS

£4,300+

A young person, in their mid-20's, with Economics degree and two years' experience in the field, is required by our clients, to visit companies and liaise effectively at all levels.

Contact:

WREN BUREAU
4 Bear Street, Leicester Square,
W.C.2
Tel: 01-734 7941.

MANAGER

For Management Department of Furnishings. Knowledge of office management, client collection, client liaison, and client service. Salary by arrangement. Present staff are aware of this vacancy.

Reply in confidence to Box 2536 M. The Times.

YOUNG MAN

AGE 25-30

required by one of leading Japanese trading companies for sales and office work of direct products. Experience in Sales, Marketing or International Industries preferred but not essential. Salary negotiable. Write giving full details to Box 2536 M. The Times.

YOUNG? MALE?

DRIVER?

A kitchen full of delicious young London Blue Cakes in the City need you for a few months.

251 0216

CASHIERS—KENSINGTON

Up to £20 per week, foreign exchange experience preferred, some evenings and weekends, some immaterial.

01-375 3376

TRAINEES IN THE CITY

Four young people are required by a City-based business for sales and office work. These are career opportunities. Good salaries. For a full interview contact Box 2536 M. The Times.

DRAKE PERSONNEL

TOUR OPERATOR

Busy West End travel office requires a responsible and experienced person to take bookings and arrange travel. Knowledge of Europe and Mediterranean essential. Excellent salary and benefits. For a full interview contact Box 2536 M. The Times.

01-580 0576.

BOOKKEEPER required for Chelsea office

Immediate start. Must be experienced in double entry system, bank reconciliations, and VAT. Salary £2,200 p.a. plus benefits. Write giving full details to Box 2536 M. The Times.

01-580 0576.

TRANSLATORS. Arabic/English

Arabic/English translators required for a leading international organisation. Knowledge of Arabic and English essential. Excellent salary and benefits. For a full interview contact Box 2536 M. The Times.

01-580 0576.

LEGAL APPOINTMENTS

TRUST MANAGER—City solicitors require experienced trust administrator (male/female) with knowledge of tax and investment. Salary up to £2,500 p.a. plus benefits. Write giving full details to Box 2536 M. The Times.

01-580 0576.

ALANAGATE LIFT SELLERS

Specialist consultants to the property industry. Knowledge of property and lifting essential. Excellent salary and benefits. For a full interview contact Box 2536 M. The Times.

PUBLIC AND EDUCATIONAL APPOINTMENTS

University of Leicester

THE NATURE OF CLASSROOM LEARNING

SENIOR RESEARCH FELLOW

A Senior Research Fellow is required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

The Project will seek to examine the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

DOVER COLLEGE, Kent

HEAD OF GEOGRAPHY DEPARTMENT

Due to the sudden death of the present holder, a post of Head of Geography Department is available. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

CRANFIELD INSTITUTE OF TECHNOLOGY

RESEARCH STUDENTSHIPS

Applications are invited for research studentships in the field of Aeronautics. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

LATYMER UPPER SCHOOL

TEACHING POST IN POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for a teaching post in the Political Department. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

UNIVERSITY OF ST. ANDREWS

DEPARTMENT OF GEOGRAPHY

CARTOGRAPHER

Applications are invited for a cartographer in the Department of Geography. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

UNIVERSITY COLLEGE DUBLIN

TEACHING POST IN POLITICAL DEPARTMENT

Applications are invited for a teaching post in the Political Department. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

UNIVERSITY OF EDINBURGH

DEPARTMENT OF RESTORATION DENTISTRY

LECTURER

Applications are invited for a lecturer in the Department of Restoration Dentistry. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning. The successful candidate will be required to lead a research team in the study of the nature of classroom learning.

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UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Rhodesia

SENIOR LECTURESHIP OR LECTURESHIP

IN THE DIVISION OF BIOLOGICAL SCIENCES

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UNIVERSITY OF RHODESIA

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Nairobi City Council

Dandora Community Development Department

The Nairobi City Council, in co-operation with the Kenya Government and the World Bank, is to embark on a Project which, over the next four years, will result in provision of 6,000 serviced plots, plus primary schools, community centres, health centres, markets etc. Apart from the physical development the Nairobi City Council will take an active part in the community development aiming at helping the future allottees to settle as quickly and as

successfully as possible. It is anticipated that this project will be followed by others similar in kind.

To implement the project the Nairobi City Council has established a new department in which the following posts shall be filled immediately:

Architect Planner

Salary Scale: Kenya £2850 x 73 - £3282 x 84 - £3450 (Overseas Contract)

Duties:

The Architect Planner will be responsible for detailed planning for residential areas, public facilities and employment areas. The engineering design and design of Community facilities will be done by a Consultant. The Planner will work in close co-operation with the Consultant and the Section's Surveyor, Architect and Engineers and the Community Development Section's Staff.

Qualifications: Registrable qualification as a Town Planner and Architect by the Architect's Registration Board of Kenya.

Experience:

Not less than five years practical experience of which at least two years in a developing country with sites and services or low cost housing schemes.

Architect

Salary Scale: Kenya £2850 x 73 - £3282 x 84 - £3450 (Overseas Contract)

EDUCATIONAL

